

Glasgow

Women’s

Library

February to May 2020

LARGE PRINT PROGRAMME

**Glasgow Women’s Library**

**is No Ordinary Library**

It is unique in Scotland and a national treasure! Glasgow Women’s Library (GWL) celebrates the lives and achievements of women and champions their contributions to Scotland’s culture. Our vibrant information hub is open to all. An Accredited Museum and home to a lending library and archive, GWL also offers exciting events, activities and courses through its various learning programmes linked to its collections.

**Joining and Booking**

**How do I join the library?**

Joining the library is really easy to do and is completely FREE! Complete a form at GWL or join online.

**How do I book an event?**

You can book through our website, in person at GWL, or call or email us.

**Do I need to pay?**

For most GWL events, there are two ticket options: a £2 ticket and a Free ticket. If a ticket price of £2 is in any way a barrier to you attending this event please choose a Free ticket. If we don’t offer Free tickets for an event, this is because the event raises funds for

the Library or a partner organisation, or because the costs associated with this event mean that our prices are slightly higher than our usual events. In these instances, please choose the ticket which you feel most able to pay. We offer our Friends Free tickets or the lower ticket price.

**Why is it important to book first?**It is important for us to know how many people to expect at all events as this affects the spaces we use and how many staff, biscuits and teabags we need! We can also contact you if there are any last minute changes. It is important to cancel a place if you can’t attend as we have waiting lists. If you have any questions about this or anything else you read in the programme please contact us.

**Green Ways to get to Bridgeton**

Our Environmental Policy sets out how we aim to reduce our carbon emissions, including supporting our visitors to travel by foot, bike or public transport.

**By bike:** best cycle routes which follows the Clyde, to the East and the West. You can hop on a Next Bike for £1 per 30 minutes and return it to the docking station round the corner.

**On foot:** We’re a 30 minute walk from the city centre.

**By public transport:** Take advantage of the great public transport links to Bridgeton: low level trains from Glasgow Central station take 10 minutes. Bellgrove Rail Station is a 10 minute walk away connecting visitors from Edinburgh and Queen Street Low Level. Buses 18, 46, 64 and 263 stop at the end of our street.

If you are travelling by car, please be considerate to our neighbours and park in the carpark opposite the library instead of on Landressy Street.

**Opening Hours**

Mon to Fri 9.30am to 5pm, Thurs 9.30am to 7.30pm, Sat 12pm to 4pm

**Address**

Glasgow Women’s Library, 23 Landressy Street, Bridgeton, Glasgow, G40 1BP

**Tel:** 0141 550 2267

**Email:** info@womenslibrary.org.uk

**Website:** womenslibrary.org.uk

**Find us on Facebook and Instagram and follow @womenslibrary on Twitter**

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**A Warm Welcome:**

**Spring 2020**

Every day at Glasgow Women’s Library we celebrate the lives and achievements of women, amplifying stories often unheard and stressing the significance of women’s work that can still be undervalued. Flicking through this Spring programme, we hope our commitment to forefronting herstories and highlighting overlooked tales of women changing lives today, really comes through.

Spring means the return of our ever popular Glasgow **Women’s Heritage Walks** return and if you’re a fan of these tours, you might like to join author **Sara Sheridan** at GWL this March as she shares her vision of a Scotland where women are commemorated in streets, building, statues and monuments. There’s lots on the Spring menu: help us spotlight women in our new creative **Making Her Mark** project celebrating Renfrewshire women; feast on rarely seen archive films from Scottish women filmmakers and discover fascinating new insights on Scottish women in photography.

Legendary Artist and photographer **Ingrid Pollard** has been in residence since Summer 2019 in the Lesbian Archive as part of **Lesbian Lives: Revealing Hidden Herstories**, a project with Glasgow International Festival 2020 improving access to the LGBTQ collections at GWL. Ingrid and her work will be inspiring a range of exciting events as we look to open up these collections and the voices of the lesbian, bi and queer women whose stories and lives are captured within them.

If you have hidden talents to unleash or are looking to develop your creative voice keep an eye out for our assorted creative writing workshops, and why not try your hand at Slam Poetry with a workshop from the amazing **Courtney Stoddart**.

Whether you want to help us mark women in Scotland’s past, discover more about what our sisters are doing around the world or put time into celebrating yourself this season, we hope the events in our programme and the books in our collection fill you with the hope and confidence needed to put a spring in your step.

As ever we offer a **Warm Welcome** every day at the library, and we also have special drop in sessions on the first Saturday of every month. Join us at our **Summer Programme Launch** on Thursday 21st May.

**We’ll be closed for the Easter weekend from Friday 10th April and reopening on Tuesday 14th April.**

**Women-only events** are labelled throughout the programme. All women-only events are inclusive of Trans, Intersex women, non-binary and gender fluid people. GWL is wheelchair accessible and hearing induction loops are available.

Please visit **womenslibrary.org.uk/about-us/accessibility** or get in touch if you have any questions about access. All events are free, open to all ages, and are located at Glasgow Women’s Library unless otherwise stated.

**Women Make History**

A rich array of ways to discover the hidden histories of women

**Change of Zine**

**Thursday 13th February, 5pm to 7pm, 12+**

To mark LGBT History Month join Lauren, our Archive Apprentice, for a zine workshop drawing inspiration from materials within the Lesbian Archive. From *Gay News* to *Working Class Queers*, leaf through some of the zines and journals in our collections, then create your own. Enjoy crafting, have a cup of tea and chat while exploring the connections between LGBT past and present.

**Women’s Heritage Walks**

As spring returns, so do our ever-popular women’s heritage walks. Led by our volunteer tour guides, they show Glasgow’s neighbourhoods in a new light, making visible the hidden and overlooked contributions women have made to the city.

Between April and October we offer one of our six walks every few weeks. Do all six and get a special Women Make History treat! Pick up your **Stamp as you Stomp** loyalty card from our tour guides or from GWL. Large print versions of the tour guides’ scripts are available on the day.

“I’m from Garnethill and I learned loads about my home ground. [The walk] was very informative and well led.” – Heritage walk attendee

**Garnethill Women’s Heritage Walk**

**Saturday 25th April, 2pm to 4pm, £10/£6**

From the bustle of Sauchiehall Street to quiet and leafy back streets, this bohemian enclave is full of surprises and has been home to many remarkable women who have made Garnethill one of the most exciting cultural and multicultural hotspots in Glasgow.

**Women of the Gorbals Heritage Walk**

**Sunday 10th May, 2pm to 4pm, £10/£6**

This guided walk will take you on a time travelling journey, from the Napoleonic Wars to modern day New Gorbals, highlighting the Suffragettes, Jewish and Asian immigrants, hawkers, and weavers who have inhabited the area over the centuries. This walk is step-free and wheelchair accessible.

**Necropolis Women’s Heritage Walk**

**Saturday 16th May, 2pm to 4pm, £10/£6**

Take a stroll through this atmospheric Victorian cemetery while our tour guides bring back to life the notorious and forgotten women buried there. This is a hilly walk but the insights on women’s history and the views across Glasgow are spectacular!

**The Life and Art of Artemisia**

**Thursday 28th May, 6pm to 7.30pm, 16+**

In 2019 we had the privilege of displaying **Artemisia Gentileschi’s** deeply moving '**Self Portrait as Saint Catherine of Alexandria'** at GWL. To celebrate Artemisia this year, **Dr Elisabetta Toreno** will tell us more about the life and work of this artist who was recognised as one of the most talented painters of her generation.

The **Seeing Things** group will be attending the event. Get in touch to find out more.

**Performing the Past**

**Saturday 30th May, 12.30pm to 3pm**

Over a hundred years ago, Scotland caught ‘pageant fever’. Thousands of performers dressed up and brought the past to life in front of captivated audiences the length and breadth of the nation. Without the hard work, dedication and creativity of women, these incredible, colourful, dramatic spectacles could not have happened. An afternoon of talks, performance and discussion exploring a largely forgotten craze.

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For more information or to book onto any of these events contact the Library on 0141 550 2267, email us at info@womenslibrary.org.uk or visit womenslibrary.org.uk. Booking is essential for the Heritage Walks as payment cannot be taken on the day.

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**Women’s Words**

A world of women’s words, written, spoken, sung and heard

**Writing for Performance: Muslim Women’s Stories**

**Saturdays from 1st February to 4th April, 1.30pm to 3.30pm, Women only, 16+**

These workshops place Muslim women at the heart of their own creative experience and provide the space, time and support needed to tell your stories in your own terms. These sessions are led by experienced playwright and producer, **Sara Sharaawi**, who will share skills to help you build tension and write dialogue as well as give you the unique chance to work with professional actors and a director!

**Writing for Performance: Showcase**

**Saturday 18th April, 1pm to 3pm, 16+**

Be inspired, moved and entertained by the work that Muslim women have created and developed as part of our Stellar Quines play-writing workshops this Spring!

**Story Café**

**Thursdays 13th February to 2nd April, 30th April to 14th May, 28th May, 12.30pm to 2pm, Women only, £2/Free**

Be nourished by women’s words over lunchtime as we rediscover the joy of being read to. From edge-of-your-seat espionage to tales of heart-warming tenderness, Story Café will spark your curiosity and freshen your perspective. Pull up a chair and become part of the story. Packed lunches welcome!

“I enjoyed being read to, and the casual nature of nibbles and chat was lovely! My first time at GWL, and it’s expanded my literary horizons” – Story Café attendee

**Story Café Specials:**

**Mythmaking: A Feminist Guide**

**Thursday 27th February, 12.30pm to 2pm, £2/Free, 18+, Women only**

Myths tell us about ourselves. They tell us who we are, where we came from and where we’re going. They are stories that speak to us across time, echoing with meaning that we recognise and relate to.

Matriarchs and mystics, Scylla and Sibyl, we’ll celebrate the bold women writers who’ve reinvented and revitalised these ancient myths, asking new questions and challenging archetypes.

**A Country that’s Silent: Mary the Queen of Scots**

**Thursday 12th March, 12.30pm to 2pm, £2/Free, Women only**

Who was **Mary Queen of Scots**? And what really motivated her? These questions have intrigued award-winning poet and author **Anne Pia**, inspiring her to create new work in response. Anne will explore some of the truths and myths surrounding this fiercely independent, eloquent woman who has influenced so much writing, music and art across the globe.

**Brave Your Day with Charley Gavigan**

**Thursday 30th April, 12.30pm to 2pm, £2/Free, 16+**

There’s nothing more powerful than a compelling tale and no one knows this more than **Charley Gavigan**, from **Brave Your Day**. This magazine and podcast shines a light on everyday stories of bravery, from Scotland and beyond. Charley will explore the power of stories to unite us in these uncertain times, and share insights from her own personal journey.

**Grey Hen Press**

**Thursday 28th May, 12.30pm to 2pm, £2/Free**

A warm welcome back to **Grey Hen Press**, whose beautiful anthologies showcase the wit and wisdom of older women poets. Dip into two of their new chapbooks on landscape themes, **Further than it looks: poems about mountains** and **Measuring the depths: poems about lakes.** The perfect chance to hear poetry that’s perceptive, witty and informed by what only the years can teach us.

**Drama Queens: Play Reading For Pleasure**

**Thursdays February 27th, March 19th, April 16th and May 14th, 2.30pm to 4.30pm, £2/Free, Women only**

Lights! Camera! Tea! Take your seats for our regular No-Acting-Required Drama Queens sessions. Read plays from the last 100 years: powerful suffragette drama, 1940s comedy sketches, 1970s Women’s Liberation plays and up-to-the minute drama from some of Scotland’s top women playwrights.

And you don’t even need to read out loud; just come along and listen. Whether you come to one session or to all, we guarantee tea, cake, dramatic fun and no stage fright.

**Reading Group for Muslim Women**

**Friday 28th February, 10.30am to 12.30pm, Scotland Street Museum, Friday 27th March, 10am to 12pm, GWL, Women only**

The Reading Group focuses on books written by Muslim women or with topics of particular relevance to Muslim women today, and we also watch films together! If you are passionate about books and love to share them with others, or you simply want to get into the habit of reading, this group is for you.

In February, we’ll be watching the short film **Shifting Sands**, and in March, we’ll be discussing **The Runaways**, by **Fatima Bhutto**. To find out more please contact **syma.ahmed@womenslibrary.org.uk**

**Open Book**

**Tuesdays 3rd March, 7th April, 5th May, and 2nd June, 10.30am to 12.30pm, £2/Free, Women only**

These vibrant and thoughtful monthly Open Book sessions are led by poet **Alice Tarbuck** and writer **Beth Godfrey**. Read poems and short stories together as prompts for your own creative writing. Each session focuses on a theme such as Bridge, Feast, Heat, or Lost Words.

**Where Are the Women?**

**Saturday 14th March, 2pm to 3.30pm, £2/Free**

Can you imagine a different Scotland, a Scotland where women are commemorated in statues and streets and buildings – even in the hills and valleys? In **Where Are the Women?**, fictional streets, buildings, statues and monuments are dedicated to real women, telling their often unknown stories. Join author **Sara Sheridan** as she guides you through that alternative nation, shedding light on some of our amazing Glasgow-based foremothers and sheroes.

*“Where Are the Women?* provides a tantalising glimpse of an alternative universe where the female contribution is prized.” – The Herald

**Creative Writing For Fearties: Dear You**

**Wednesday 18th March, 2.30pm to 4.30pm, £2/Free, Women only**

“Had tea with the captain again this afternoon on the bridge and he took some snaps of Lucy and me. We both sit at his table now & so have to behave ourselves.”

It’s April 1939 and Isobel Ramsay is off to war, on her way to Egypt to work in the NAAFI. Read – and write – between the lines of her letters to her father, and other letters in our collection, in this creative writing session.

“Brilliant opportunity to build confidence in a relaxed, safe environment.” – Creative Writing Workshop Participant

**Fiction Writing to Help Manage Chronic Pain**

**Tuesdays 21st April and 28th April, 10.30am to 12.30pm, Women only**

*When pain doesn’t define your story*. Explore the ways writing can be used as a powerful distraction to help manage chronic pain, in these creative writing workshops led by writer, living with MS, **Gillian Shirreffs**. We’ll practice the skills involved in writing fiction and have fun developing our own scenes and stories. Look out for a taster writing exercise on our website in late March! Get in touch if you’d like to know more.

**Find Your Words: Slam Poetry**

**Thursday 30th April, 5pm to 7.30pm, Glasgow Women’s Library, Thursday 7th May, 5pm to 7.30pm, Scottish Poetry Library, £2/Free, Women only, 16+**

Do poetry slams leave you lost for words? Let performance poet **Courtney Stoddart** boost your skills and confidence while you experiment with slam poetry, whether you’re yet to write your first poem or you’re a slam regular!

If you enjoy this, take a look at GWL’s first Digital Poetry Slam at **Open the Door**.

“Really enjoyable workshop full of nice people. I felt comfortable and free to be honest with my writing” – Edinburgh Writing Workshop Participant

**Open the Door**

**Monday 18th May to Friday 22nd May, Online**

This year we invite the digital world to **Open the Door** by hosting our women’s writing festival entirely online, focusing on environmental and ecofeminist ideas. We’re shining a special spotlight on Brazilian abolitionist and author **Maria Firmina dos Reis**; Scottish novelist, playwright and radio producer **Jessie Kesson**; and Kenyan environmental and political activist **Wangari Maathai**. Log on for creative writing exercises, recorded events, digital poetry slam, Q&A’s and lots more.

“The future of the planet concerns all of us and all of us should do what we can to protect it.” – From Unbowed, One Woman’s Story by Wangari Maathai

**Artists and Exhibitions**

Ground breaking work on show and pioneering creatives to discover

**Seeing Things**

**Women only, 16+**

Curious about art and culture?  Like being out and about? Our Seeing Things group is for you! Last year we were treated to tours in museums and art centres, were welcomed into Glasgow's Southside Gurdwara, were given a taste of Sudan as part of Refugee Festival Scotland and navigated the bountiful stores of the Glasgow Museum Resource Centre together. Our trips to films, exhibitions, talks, performances and workshops at GWL and beyond are always free, we chat over tea and coffee (on us!) about what we’ve seen and we refund travel costs (up to £5).

The Seeing Things stamp in this programme highlights group trips to GWL activities. Keep an eye on the website or get in touch to find out about upcoming trips to other venues. Email Emily on **emily.ilett@womenslibrary.org.uk** or call us to book a space or if you would like to join the Seeing Things mailing list.

**SAY Artists**

**Friday 7th February to Saturday 28th of March, visit during GWL opening hours**

These artworks have been produced by 12 incredible young women. All of the art has been created by survivors of sexual violence and abuse. This exhibition personifies the positive impacts that engagement in art, learning and creative expression can have on recovery and wellbeing following the trauma of sexual violence. Together, we celebrate the creative achievements of these young women and ‘give voice’ to survivors in public life.

Our **Seeing Things** group will be visiting this exhibition. Get in touch to find out more!

**Toys for Survival**

**Friday 14th February to Saturday 28th March, visit during GWL opening hours**

Mobilising playfulness and pleasure as a radical act within a history of women’s resistance, healing and growth, **Toys for Survival** started life as a series of workshops for survivors of gender-based violence. The exhibition explores sensuality and sensory pleasure through sculpture, placing the survivors’ work alongside work by **Leah Miller-Biot**, **Maria de Lima** and **Joanna Peace**.

Our **Seeing Things** group will be visiting tis exhibition. Get in touch to find out more!

**Toys for Survival: Exhibition Launch**

**Thursday 13th February, 6pm to 7pm**

A special chance to preview the exhibition before it opens and attend a guided tour with the women behind the project.

**Toys for Survival: Publication Launch**

**Thursday 20th February, 6pm to 7.30pm**

The Toys for Survival publication documents the project and outlines its methods, and this launch will include a talk and Q&A by organisers **Leah Miller-Biot** and **Eloise Birtwhistle**.

Toys for Survival was devised by artist Leah Miller-Biot in partnership with Uncovered Artistry CIC and Glasgow East Women’s Aid.

**Herland: Readings from the Bower of Bliss**

**Friday 6th March, 7pm to 10.30pm, £19/£14, 18+**

Immerse yourself in a new reading experience as you enter the **Bower of Bliss** with artist **Linder** hosting our first international women's day Herland. Expect the unexpected as we return to the first chapter of artist film ‘Bower of Bliss’ and premiere the second, with prophetic readings, performance, and music.

Dress code: Hallucinogenic, botanical or a cross pollination of the two.

**Bower of Bliss: The Next Chapter**

**Saturday 7th March to Thursday 9th April, visit during GWL opening hours**

See the next chapter of **Linder’s** artist film ‘**Bower of Bliss**,’ first revealed as part of Linder’s Flag & Film commission at GWL for Glasgow International 2018. Shot on location at Chatsworth at the Mary Queen of Scots Bower and in the house and grounds, where the anointed queen was detained under the jurisdiction of Elizabeth I, this second edition of the Bower of Bliss gives fresh perspectives and new scenes to devour.

The film lasts around 12 minutes, contains no dialogue and an audio description of the soundscape will be available.

**'Ways of Seeing’: Women and Photography in Scotland**

**Thursday 2nd April, 9am to 5pm**

How have women photographers in Scotland taken control of their own image? This symposium will reveal neglected stories of Scottish women in photography, including feminist social documentary photographer **Franki Raffles**, folklorist **Margaret Fay** Shaw and more.

Inspired by and featuring collections from The National Trust for Scotland and GWL, this event explores photographic portrayals of women through time and will challenge institutions to better use photographic collections to tell women’s stories.

**'Ways of Seeing’: Exhibition**

**Thursday 2nd April, 9am to 7pm**

What are Scottish women’s unique ways of seeing the world through the camera lens? At the library for one day only before it’s showing at Tenement House, Shutter Hub brings together an exhibition of women’s photography in response to the ‘Ways of Seeing’ symposium with an informal reception between 5pm and 7pm, open to all.

**Ingrid Pollard**

**Thursday 23rd April to Monday 1st June, visit during GWL opening hours**

**For GI, from the 24th April to 10th May, the exhibition will also be open on Sundays from 12pm to 4pm.**

Artist and researcher **Ingrid Pollard** works with communities, both historic and contemporary, to explore representation and history with reference to race and difference. Pollard uses different photographic processes alongside printmaking, artist books, installation, video and audio to shed new light on important subjects. Following a residency in 2019 this solo exhibition will reveal her responses to the fascinating materials held in the Lesbian archive at GWL. The new works offer a vital challenge to the ongoing marginalisation and erasure of LGBTQ+ history and culture.

**Ingrid Pollard: Exhibition Launch**

**Friday 24th April, 2pm to 4pm**

Join us for the preview of **Ingrid Pollard’s** new exhibition, proudly commissioned by GWL and part of Glasgow International 2020. Alongside an introduction to the work, this event will include a performance curated by Ingrid to mark the occasion.

**Ingrid Pollard: Artist’s Talk**

**Thursday 30th April, 6pm to 7.30pm**

Join Ingrid Pollard as she discusses her multi-layered practice and time spent in the Lesbian Archive and Information Centre, a collection that makes up one third of GWL’s overall archive. This event will host the artist in conversation with an invited guest and library audiences.

**Patchworking the Lesbian Archive**

**Saturday 16th May, 1pm to 3.30pm, 16+, Women only**

Quilts have long been used as a vehicle for women to tell their stories through stitch. Together with artist **Sarah-Joy Ford**, we will create a collaborative quilt celebrating lesbian heritage and inspired by the Lesbian Archive at GWL.

Suitable for people with a range of sewing abilities, you’ll learn heat-bonding applique, hand sewing and embellishment techniques. After the workshop the squares will be made up into a quilt that will become part of the Lesbian Archive.

**Films and Performance**

Be there for vital conversations and celebrate films, festivals and new performances

**Her Century: Scotland’s Women on Film**

**Thursday 20th February, 5.30pm to 7.30pm, Women only**

Through the twentieth century, Scottish women challenged their roles in society and fought for equality: from work to home, classroom to croft, girlhood to motherhood. Discover their stories in this collection of rarely-seen archive films featuring work from Scottish women filmmakers, and see materials from our museum stores that bring to life their lives, struggles and activism.

This screening is subtitled.

**The Archivettes and Rebel Dykes**

**Thursday 27th February, 5.30pm to 7.30pm, £2/Free**

"Our history was disappearing as quickly as we were making it."

Artist **Ingrid Pollard**, currently on residency at GWL, and filmmaker **Siobhan Fahey** are exploring lesbian history, culture, politics and movements through their practices. Together they present this screening of **The Archivettes** (2019) centering on the Lesbian Herstory Archives in Brooklyn and a short preview of Fahey's **Rebel Dykes** (2021) which documents the London lesbian scene, exploring the politics, clubs and communities that were forged in the 80’s. Part of Glasgow Film Festival 2020.

**Seeing the Unseen**

**Thursday 5th March, 5pm to 7.30pm, £2/Free**

It’s time for the world to see the unseen. This powerful and poetic documentary portrays the role autism plays in the lives of 17 Icelandic women, and asks why autistic women and girls have remained invisible in society for so long.

Celebrating autistic women, the film also explores how frequently women have been mistreated, misdiagnosed and misunderstood. The Scottish Women’s Autism Network will lead a Q and A after the screening. Part of GFF 2020.

Our **Seeing Things** group will be attending this event. Get in touch to find out more.

**Play Reading with a Twist!**

**Tuesday 7th April, 12pm to 2pm, Al-Meezan, Dumbrek, Women only, 16+**

An afternoon of play readings in both Urdu and English! The Sakinah Women’s Group are always up for trying something new and this Spring, they’re exploring feminist plays in GWL’s collection and translating one into Urdu. Following workshops with a local playwright, the group will take to the stage for this dazzling play reading with tea and buns.

**Out and About**

Bringing GWL’s special ingredients to a place near you

**Create and Connect**

**Saturdays 8th February, 14th March, 11th April, 9th May, 10.30am to 12.30pm, Edinburgh Central Library, Women only**

Would you like a space to connect to your writing and with other writers, in an informal and friendly setting? If so, our monthly create and connect workshops in Edinburgh may be just for you! We meet on the second Saturday morning of every month to read, discuss, do writing activities together and share our work. We’d love for you to come to all four sessions of this immersive programme if you can. To find out more, please email **emily.ilett@womenslibrary.org.uk**.

“I feel truly blessed to have stumbled upon the Create & Connect workshop. I didn’t imagine it would or could be such an inspirational, motivational and supportive influence on my life” – Create and Connect participant

**Making Her Mark: Celebrating Women in Renfrewshire**

**Thursdays 6th February to 19th March and 23rd April to 25th June, 1pm to 3pm, Kairos Women’s Centre, Johnstone, Women only, 16+**

Can you name a Renfrewshire heroine? How are women’s lives reflected in Renfrewshire’s towns and villages? How are they celebrated or remembered? Bring your stories and ideas to this exciting new project. A chance to try out something new, take part in creative workshops and make friends.

“It was really relaxing to be around other women, of all ages…quizzes, films, archive materials, chats..the best thing was the laughter.” - Women’s history workshop participant, Johnstone

**Readers of Colour**

**Wednesdays 26th February, 25th March, 29th April, 6pm to 7pm, Lighthouse Books, Women of Colour only, 16+**

We meet at Lighthouse Books, Edinburgh, on the last Wednesday of every month to discuss poetry, fiction, narrative non-fiction and more by writers of colour. We have recently been reading work by **Maud Sulter, Zora Neale Hurston, and Nikita Gill**.

The reading group is a great opportunity to meet new people, chat about books in an open and informal space, and share a passion for writing by women of colour.

**Story Café at Paisley Book Festival: Radical Women**

**Thursday 27th February, 2pm to 4pm, Paisley Arts Centre, Women only, 16+**

Sit back and listen to talks, stories and poems that celebrate the lives of poets, writers and fighters – radical women, from **Jane Arthur** and the thread mill workers to groups such as ROAR who campaign for equality in publishing today.

Rediscover the joy of being read to and enjoy the tea, scones and lively chat!

**Story Café at Dundee Women’s Festival: Women and Water**

**Thursday 12th March, 10.30am to 12pm, Menzieshill Community Hub, Dundee, Women only, 12+**

Dive into the deeps at this Story Café, where we'll be swimming through tales of women and water. We'll be dipping into both non-fiction and fiction by women writers including readings from **The Girl Who Lost Her Shadow**, the children's book debut from GWL's **Emily Ilett**, a tale of sisterhood, marine conservation and bravery. Gather round and listen to these tales with a warm cup of tea.

**A Spoon is the Safest Vessel**

**Fridays, Saturday and Sundays from Saturday 21st March to Sunday 12th April, 11am to 5pm, Look Again Project Space, Aberdeen**

**Juliane Foronda**, **Kirsty Russell** and **Tako Taal** take inspiration from the unique collection of archive materials at GWL to play host in this exhibition, presenting new works to both feed and challenge the senses. This Spring, **A Spoon is the Safest Vessel** travels North to the Look Again Project Space offering a programme of reading groups and events consider multiculturalism, representation and hosting in Aberdeen.

**A Spoon is the Safest Vessel: Exhibition Launch**

**Friday 20th March, 6pm to 8pm, Look Again Project Space, Aberdeen**

Join the artists and project curators from GWL and Look Again to celebrate and preview the exhibition. Expect edible art works alongside other subtle interventions.

**Get More Involved**

Ways to get active, make your mark, and help shape our future

**Women Making It**

**Fortnightly from Friday 7th February to 29th May, 10.30am to 12.30pm, Women only**

This Spring, be invigorated by our drop-in Women Making It sessions. GWL has bitesize learning and fun on offer including feminist crafts, creative writing, zine making, wellbeing workshops and much more. These sessions are open to all women, so if you live round the corner or on the other side of town, pop by to connect with others, learn and make new friends.

“A pleasant change to my Friday mornings indulging in crafts and meeting wonderful women” – Women Making It participant

**This is who we are**

**Thursday 14th May, 6pm to 7.30pm**

An informal session for anyone who would like to find out more about GWL, our history, Core Values, collections, events and projects.

This session is hosted by cofounder and Creative Development Manager, Adele Patrick. Adele will be sharing learning from her recent Clore Leadership Fellowship, which gave her opportunity to reflect on how GWL has grown, what makes it tick and bring back new thinking on feminist leadership to the organisation.

**Be a Paper Grrl!**

We’re always looking to reach new people and widen our audiences. If you’ve got a couple of hours to spare each month and like getting out and about, we’d love your help with distributing our programmes to friendly venues in your area.

Please get in touch if you’d like to find out how to help.

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For more information or to book onto any of these events contact the Library on 0141 550 2267, email us at info@womenslibrary.org.uk or visit womenslibrary.org.uk

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**Events at a Glance**

**Exhibitions/Ongoing**

SAY Artists,Friday 7th February to Saturday 28th of March **p32**

Toys for Survival,Friday 14th February to Saturday 28th March **p33**

Bower of Bliss: The Next Chapter, Saturday 7th March to Thursday 9th April **p36**

A Spoon is the Safest Vessel,Saturday 21st March to Sunday 12th April, Look Again Project Space, Aberdeen **p51**

Ingrid Pollard, Thursday 23rd April to Monday 1st June **p39**

Open the Door, Monday 18th May to Friday 22nd May, Online **p30**

**February**

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Celebrating Women in Renfrewshire(Johnstone) **p47**

**Fri 7th**

Women Making It **p53**

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Create and Connect (Edinburgh) **p46**

Writing for Performance: Muslim Women’s Stories **p18**

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Story Café **p19**

Change of Zine **p12**

Celebrating Women in Renfrewshire (Johnstone) **p47**

Toys for Survival: Exhibition Launch **p34**

**Sat 15th**

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Toys for Survival: Publication Launch **p34**

Her Century: Scotland’s Women on Film **p42**

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**Thurs 27th**

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The Archivettes and Rebel Dykes **p43**

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Reading Group for Muslim Women (Scotland Street Museum) **p24**

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Reading Group for Muslim Women **p24**

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**May**

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**June**

**Tues 2nd**

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**Thurs 4th**

Celebrating Women in Renfrewshire (Johnstone) **p47**

**GWL will be closed from Friday 10th April and will reopen on Tuesday 14th April**

**Glasgow Women’s Library is created and developed by you.**

Our collections are made from donations of books, museums and archive items given by and reflecting the lives and histories of thousands of women. If you have something you think would help tell the story of women in Scotland, let us know or visit our website for more information on the donations process.

To make our next programme the very best it can be (and to make our staff and volunteers very happy), this Spring we’re looking for:

- Books written in translation and in languages other than English, and bilingual poetry books

- Environmental campaign materials

- Graphic novels

- Feminist friendly children’s books

- Materials on women and gardening

If you would like to donate any of the above, please do get in touch!

We are always looking for fresh ideas, and exciting new partnerships. We’d love for you to let us know what you’d like to propose by visiting our website, clicking through Get Involved and Work with GWL where you’ll find Guidelines and a Working with GWL form.

**Access**

We currently have two magnifying glasses available for use at Glasgow Women’s Library. We have large print versions of exhibition notes where possible and we have an audio version of this programme. Please get in touch or visit **womenslibrary.org.uk/about-us/accessibility** to find out more.

We’re always looking for feedback on our accessibility and our large print formats. Please get in touch with your comments by calling us on 0141 550 2267 or emailing info@womenslibrary.org.uk

**Be Our Friend**

At Glasgow Women’s Library we have been supporting women from all walks of life across Scotland through our life-changing work since 1991. With many learning programmes, and projects focussing on Adult Literacy and Volunteer Development, we have helped women to stretch themselves, try new things and achieve far more than they ever imagined.

Knowing that you can change someone’s life for the better is a powerful thing. Our Friends help us do this. From as little as £2 per month you can help make our collections even more accessible, support our learning and events programme and make sure our work is sustainable for future generations.

Visit **friends.womenslibrary.org.uk** to become a Friend.

**Glasgow Women’s Library is funded by:**

The Scottish Government

Creative Scotland

Glasgow Community Intergrated Grant Fund

Museums Association: Esmée Fairburn Collections Fund

The Robertson Trust

Historic Environment Scotland

**This Learning and Events Programme is also supported by:**

Film Hub Scotland

National Library of Scotland Moving Image Archive

Brave Your Day

Lighthouse Books

Dundee Women’s Festival

Paisley Book Festival

Scottish Poetry Library

Kairos

RAMH

Renfrewshire Council

Open Book

Historic Environment Scotland

King’s College London

UKRI Arts and Humanities Research Council

University College London

University of Edinburgh

National Theatre Scotland

Einhverfusamtokin

Scottish Women’s Autism Network

Open the Door

Grey Hen Press

Museums Associations

Glasgow International Festival

Glasgow Film Festival

Feminist Book Fortnight