

# Brighton Women's History Festival - Saturday 14 March 2015

## Brighthelm Centre, North Road, Brighton. BN1 1YD

	<b>Talks (Auditorium)</b>	<b>Workshops &amp; Exhibitions</b>	<b>Walking Tours (meet by reception desk)</b>
10.00	Doors open	<b>Exhibitions in the Entrance Hall/Foyer (all day)</b>	
10.30	<b>Opening Speech - Caroline Lucas MP</b>		
11.00	<b>The African Princess in Brighton - Brighton &amp; Hove Black History Project</b>		
11.30	<b>Women and the Mass Observation Archive - Suzanne Rose</b>		
12.00	<b>Bad Girls: the Secret History of Women and Sexism - Louise Raw</b>		
12.30	<b>Setting up a Women's History Group - Charmian Cannon and Ruth Cohen</b>		
12.45		<b>Lunch Break food served in the Cafe</b>	<b>The Suffragettes of Brighton and Hove - Karen Antoni</b>
13.00	<b>Film screenings</b>		
14.00	<b>The Sisterhood and After - Claire Sissons</b>		
14.30	<b>Prinny's Women - Jaki da Costa</b>	<b>Zine-making workshop - Victoria Lglikowsky (room confirmed on the day)</b>	<b>Amazing Women of Brighton - Louise Peskett</b>
15.00	<b>Women and the Black Market - Terry McCarthy</b>		
15.30	<i>Talk to be confirmed</i>	<b>Phenomenal Women - Evlynn Sharp Creative Writing Workshop (room confirmed on the day)</b>	
16.00	<b>Women's Role in the 1980s Miners' Strike - Bev Trounce</b>		
16.30	<b>Hank &amp; The Suffragettes - Alastair Goode</b>		
17.00	<b>Poetry readings - Evlynn Sharp</b>		
17.30	Close and Networking		

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### Talks

#### **The African Princess in Brighton** – *Brighton & Hove Black History Project*

Sarah Forbes Bonetta was a West African Princess given as a gift to Queen Victoria. Impressed by the girl's natural regal manner and exceptional intelligence, Victoria was pleased to give her sanction to be married in St, Nicholas Church in Brighton.

#### **Women and the Mass Observation Archive** – *Suzanne Rose*

The Mass Observation Archive has captured the experiences, thoughts and opinions of everyday people in Britain since 1937. This talk will focus on how women have engaged with this unique project, introducing diarists such as Nella Last who was portrayed by Victoria Wood in the BBC drama *Housewife 49*.

#### **Bad Girls: the Secret History of Women and Sexism** – *Louise Raw*

In Ancient Egypt women brewed the beer. Medieval women worked on building sites and at bell foundries and most pharmacists were female. Why has history kept this from us? Louise Raw, author of "Striking a Light" and organiser of the annual Matchwomen's Festival, takes us through the secret history of women, focussing on the Victorian moment when 'working girls' became 'bad girls'. An exploration of sexism through the ages and how its toxic legacy lives on.

#### **Sisterhood and After: The Women's Liberation Oral History Project** – *Claire Sissons*

This project was a joint venture led by the University of Sussex's Margareta Jolly in partnership with the British Library. It has led to the launch of the first national oral history archive charting the development of the post-1968 Women's Liberation Movement in Britain. This permanent, free resource preserves the voices of 1970s/1980s feminists through sixty long life histories, ten short films by feminist filmmaker Lizzie Thynne, and an extensive colourful web site hosted by the British Library's Learning Programme. We hope the archive will help to carry feminist memories into feminist futures! See [bl.uk/sisterhood](http://bl.uk/sisterhood) for more details

#### **Prinny's Women** – *Jaki da Costa*

George IV put Brighton on the map when he was Prince Regent "Prinny". In an age when advancement for women often depended on the men they bedded, a Prince naturally attracted a series of lovers. This talk explores some of them.

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### **Women and the Black Market in Post War Britain** – *Terry McCarthy*

“Mum where have all the lady crane drivers gone?” The British cinema and later the television always depicted those involved in the black market as being predominantly male. This was far from the truth. Terry's grandmother and her friend Gypsy Reily were leading black marketeers and had him working in the industry himself at an early age. Terry explains why women, summarily dismissed at the end of the war to make way for returning male soldiers, turned to the black or grey market.

### **Women's Role in the 1980s Miners' Strike** – *Bev Trounce*

Ordinary working-class women became transformed into militant activists during the miners' strike in their fight to keep the collieries open. After the strike they continued demonstrating by setting up pit-camps at the collieries and many found that their lives had changed forever.

### **Hank and the suffragettes: a personal account of the suffragette movement.**

During their time in prison suffragettes were treated appallingly. The only contact they had with the outside world was through pastoral visitors such as the Reverend Hankinson who, unbeknown to the authorities, were smuggling in letters and other things the Suffragettes needed. This talk will tell the story of what happened to the suffragettes through the letters and artifacts he left behind.

## **Guided walks**

### **The Suffragettes of Brighton & Hove** – *Karen Antoni*

### **Amazing Women of Brighton** – *Louise Peskett*

## **Exhibitions**

### **Herstory: Exploring Women's History Through Art** – *Alice Wroe*

Alice's interactive exhibition uses feminist art to engage children and young people with women's history – history that seldom features in the school curriculum.

### **One Hundred Years of Women in Policing**

It's 100 years since women entered the police service. Sussex Police will display photos, historic information and memorabilia to celebrate the early pioneers and women's contribution to policing.

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### Workshops

#### **Phenomenal Women** – with *Poet Evlynn Sharp*

A one-hour creative writing workshop inspired by Maya Angelou and other great women poets of the past. Participants will do practical exercises, share their words with each other, and hear examples of poetry by women writers. Suitable for adults and older children.

#### **Zine making workshop** – with *Victoria Iglkowski (National Archives)*

Create your own zine (self-produced magazine) or contribute to a collective one exploring women's experiences in the past. This workshop will allow you to creatively explore facsimiles of rich archival sources of women's history from the National Archives. Explore themes ranging from women's 'deviant' sexuality to the 20th century practice of marriage bars. This workshop is suitable for anyone who is willing to be creative!