



The

Women's Library



Annual Report 2014/2015



Mardi Gras Fair Day Stall 2015

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Lee Brooks, Committee Member & Volunteer co-ordinator, retired after many years of service to TWL on 28/7/15.

Thank you Lee! ☺

Secretary's Report

This has been a busy year for The Women's Library. Our convenor, Tania Marlowe, initiated a string of projects including culling and reorganising the collection, upgrading our website, repainting the walls and beginning work to move our catalogue on-line. Tania has now stepped down from her position.

Lee Brooks, who was our volunteer and group co-ordinator, has now also retired after many years of service to the library. However, despite this loss the number of groups using the library has continued to grow. We have also added more volunteers to many shifts to ensure that we are developing a pool of talent and have the capacity to undertake the major work that now needs to be done.

Despite farewelling our convenor and volunteer co-ordinator in recent months, the library is growing in strength with a team of new dedicated volunteers, including the daughter of TWL's founder, Brenna Harding who has recently joined the management committee.

Aside from being the daughter of Vicki Harding, Brenna's name may be familiar to some as a well-known young actor and activist for LGBTIQ rights. Brenna and the team have been working on putting the collection back in order and introducing the Dewey Decimal system to TWL.

We also need to give special mention to Natalie Hiddlestone who has taken over organising the volunteer roster and to Shirley Woodland who has been working as our Membership Secretary, and put in a huge effort to ensure everyone received their AGM invitations and membership renewal forms on time this year.

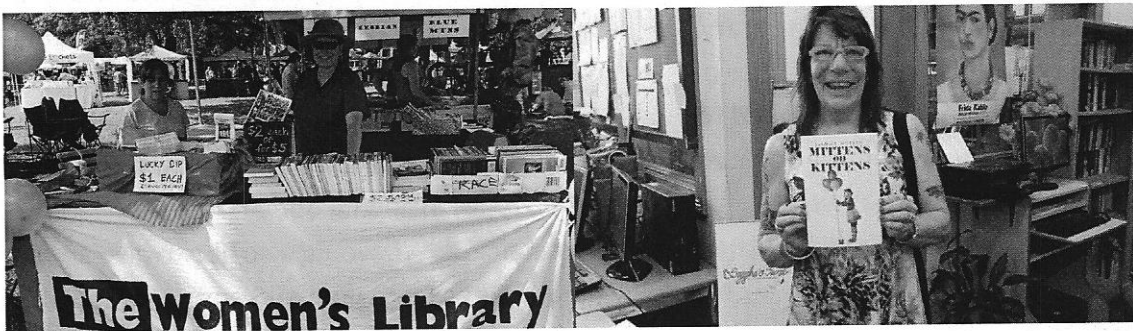
With our accommodation grant renewed and our A rating restored with the City of Sydney Council, the future of TWL looks solid. We are now planning to submit grant applications to fund much needed work to update our information technology systems, including our website and library catalogue. We would also like to give special thanks to SpiderRedgold and Katie Blake for their continuing support in this area.

Anna Kerr
TWL Secretary



Events 2014-15

- In October 2014 TWL hosted a book launch for local writer Jasmine Noreen (known to many of you as Julz, -and currently a member of our management committee).
- In March 2015 our convenor Tania organised a TWL stall at the Mardi Gras Fair Day which saw a large number of new membership applications.
- In June 2015 we collaborated with Sydney LETS to sell some of our excess books at the Anarchists Book Fair.
- A number of new groups launched during the year including the Gender Club, the Women's Writes Movement and the Women's Liberation Group – "Sharing Voices".
- So far in this new financial year, TWL have already held a Book Fair and Writer's Launch and more events are planned.



Social Media Report

Our Facebook page has grown to 700 likes! Having a social media profile has enabled the library to promote events such as our annual book sale and to connect and exchange information with other organizations that share similar feminist philosophies with the library's policies and principles. These interactions and our growing online profile have resulted in a steady increase of volunteers, membership, new groups and general library drop-ins and enquiries.

Our Facebook presence has also made communication with The Women's Library readily accessible as our page is not only regularly updated but all online enquiries are usually quickly addressed and answered even outside of the

library's normal operating hours. At present, all Facebook feedback has been positive and several followers have commented on how by simply receiving regular updates they view the library as an accessible, reliable and consistent service. We aim to maintain and hopefully increase our online presence within the community so that women are aware that we're here, that we're active and that we want them to get involved with the library.

– **Freddie Landgraf**

Group Report

The Women's Library currently hosts 12 regular groups as well as a number of other groups that use the library for one-off events such as film nights and annual general meetings. Groups that have met on a regular basis at TWL during 2014/2015 are Lesbian Open House, the Feminist Discussion Group, No Shelter, Sydney Feminists, Gender Club, Lesbian AA, NA GLBT, AACA, Shenpen, First Sunday Book Club, the Women's Writes Movement, and the Women's Liberation Group - Sharing Voices.

Lesbian Open House

Lesbian Open House continues its meetings every Tuesday night at 7pm at the Women's Library. The numbers coming along continue to be around 20 to 25 each night with an age range from mid-twenties to late fifties and some charming outliers as well.

Around 20 different people have facilitated over the year with topics that range from "Do you think things happen for a reason" to "What advice would you give to your younger self" to "What does she mean when she says come for coffee?".

Thanks to our informal social organisers, Nurul and Fiona, there have been a number of visits to movies and putt putt as well as epic sporting competitions through the year. We have ventured out on the weekend to play ten pin bowling, pool or lawn bowls. The winner's trophy is always the same - just with a new sticker on it for whatever sport we're engaging in.

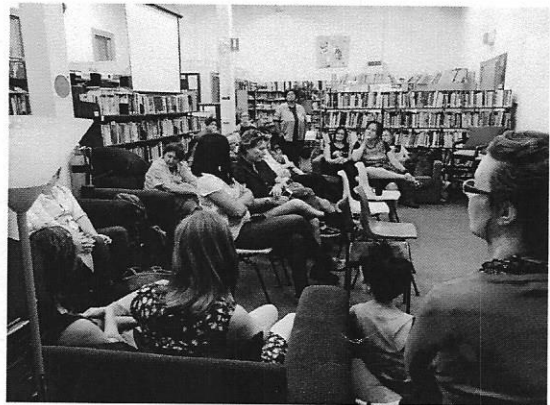
Quite a few people have also been social with the Sydney Gay Gals Meet Up group:

<http://www.meetup.com/The-Sydney-Gay-Gals/#upcoming>

Open House has also set up a new website [Sydney Lesbian Social group](#)

and continues to have a strong presence on facebook with over 1,400 members

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/10609268418/>



Thanks again to the Women's Library - it's a great space for our meetings.

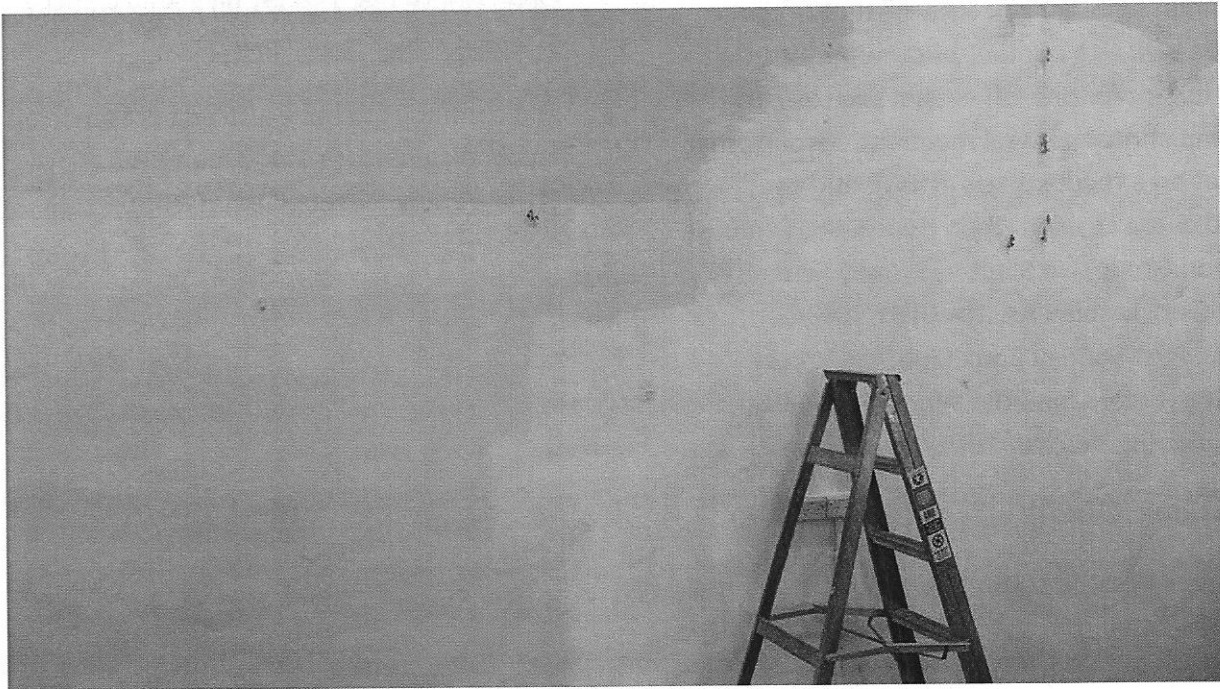
Jeannie

Shenpen

Shenpen Australia is a not for profit organisation with the aim of bringing benefit to others. We have been meeting to study and practise the teachings of the Dzogchen lineage on Sunday mornings. All are welcome. Please contact Vanessa (nsw@shenpenaustralia.org) for more information.

If members are interested in further information in regard to any of our other groups or would like to book the space for their own group, they should contact the TWL Secretary or Group Co-ordinator.

Off the Wall Art Space



As a result of the renovations the “Off the Wall Art Space” has not been operating during the past year, although some of you may have noticed the interim wall mural that was kindly painted on the wall by a local artist (sorry – we don’t know your name or we would thank you personally!).

There are plans to reactivate the “Off the Wall Art Space” in 2016 with an application to host the Mamapalooza Art Festival currently under consideration. The committee is also intending to introduce an artist application process so that we can formally offer the space to women artists wishing to exhibit their works. Please contact us if you are interested in exhibiting in 2016.



Michelle Collocott, who was the Off the Wall Art Space Co-ordinator in 1999, one of the earliest artists to exhibit and has continued as an active member and casual volunteer at TWL.

Acknowledgements – Our Volunteers (*Committee Members in bold*)

Mara Bonacci – Shift Volunteer	Hilary Monkton – Shift Volunteer
Lee Brooks – TWL Committee Member & Volunteer co-ordinator till 28/7/15. Public Officer.	Jasmine Noreen – TWL Committee Member
Katie Blake – IT support	Bethan Rees– Shift Volunteer & consultancy services
Laurinda Blow – Shift Volunteer	Spider Redgold – IT support
Michelle Collocott – Casual volunteer	Jeannie Sotheran- Public Officer in 2014
Elise Deprez– Shift Volunteer	Xiaoran Shi – Casual volunteer
Jennifer Doyle– Shift Volunteer	Carolyn Symonds – Shift Volunteer
Wendy Dorrington– Shift Volunteer	Szuszy Timar – Shift Volunteer
Sami Elchab – Casual Volunteer	Bronwyn Thomas – Committee Member
Brenna Harding – TWL Committee member since 17/8/15.	Melissa Tomkins – Casual Volunteer
Natalie Hiddlestone – Volunteer Co-ordinator	Siri Williams – Shift Volunteer
Gabe Jones – TWL Committee Member till 13/10/15	Katrina Woods – Shift Volunteer
Anna Kerr – TWL Secretary	Shirley Woodland – Membership Secretary
Serene King– Shift Volunteer	<p><i>Thank you everyone! You have been a terrific team. The Women's Library would also like to thank the input and support of the City of Sydney Council, Jessie Street Library, Newtown Library, Spinifex Press, Cosmopolitan Editorial, our accountant C M Pitt & Co and everyone else who has donated time, books or money to TWL.</i></p> <p><i>Apologies if we have missed anyone from this list.</i></p>
Mary Laloyianni– Shift Volunteer	
Freddie Landgraf – TWL Treasurer	
Tania Maslarevic/Marlowe – TWL Convenor till 23/7/15	
Bianca Maureira – TWL Committee Member till 17/8/15	

Treasurer's Report

The Women's Library has had a challenging year. The year began with great intentions and plans to refurbish and rejuvenate the library. However, the resultant rearranging of our book shelves and culling of our entire collection has occupied most of our volunteer time.

As a result of subsequent committee resignations the remaining committee members have been busy just keeping up with the administrative requirements of the organisation, on top of trying to reintroduce order to the space.

As result of the renovations, our second hand book store remained closed for the greater part of the year and as a result our book sales have fallen significantly, from \$1479.15 (2014) to \$430.35 (2015). We lost a major source of revenue this year, however, our second hand book store has recently reopened and we expect our book sales to greatly improve in the next financial year!

Fortunately, we have also increased our group memberships and with it we obtained an increase in donations from groups using the library space. The group donations are stronger than ever and our biggest revenue at \$1901.90 (51%).

Our largest expense continues to be our insurance \$1408 (25%) and our telephone expense has increased significantly \$898.53

(16%). The committee plans to address this issue.

Our renewed lease with the City of Sydney Council at 100% subsidy continues to make all the difference to the viability of the library. We are so grateful!

The library finished the year with a credit bank balance of \$4371.37 and a net operating loss of \$1886.40 as reflected in the Audit conducted by CM Pitt & Co.

With the reopening of our bookstore and plans to organise more events to increase our membership numbers and book sales, we hope to improve our financial performance this financial year. The committee also plans to revive the WOLF sponsorship program in order to increase the amount of donations to the library... Tell your friends and support The Women's Library! 😊

Freddie Landgraf

TWL Treasurer



THE WOMEN'S LIBRARY INC.
Committee Report

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Your committee members submit the financial statements of the Women's Library Inc. for the financial year ended 30 June 2015.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The names of committee throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

Tania Marlow	Convenor (Resigned 23/7/2015)
Anna Kerr	Secretary (Appointed 06/09 06/09/2014)
Freddie Landgraf	Treasurer (Appointed 08/11/2014)
Jen Newman	Secretary (Resigned 06/09/2014)
Lee Brooks	Treasurer (Resigned 08/11/2014)
Bronwyn Thomas	Group Co -ordinator (08/11/14 - 28/07/2015)
Julie Noreen	Committee Member
Bianca Maureira	Committee Member (Appointed 06/09/2014)
Gabrielle Jones	Committee Member (Resigned 17/08/2015)
Brenna Harding	Committee Member (Resigned 13/10/2015)
	Committee Member (Appointed 17/08/2015)

PRINCIPLE ACTIVITIES

The principle activities of the association during financial year were to provide a space for books for, by and about women.

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

OPERATING RESULT

The deficit of operating activities for the year was \$1886.40

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the members of the committee.



Anna Kerr
Secretary



Freddie Landgraf
Treasurer

Dated: 2 November 2015

C M PITT & CO

Chartered Accountants

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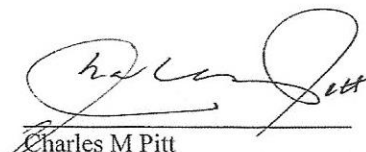
AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

THE WOMEN'S LIBRARY'S INCORPORATED

As lead auditor for the audit of the women's Library Incorporated for the year ended 30 June 2015, I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as required by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia and New Zealand; and
- (ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

This declaration is in respect of the Women's Library Incorporated during the period.



Charles M Pitt
C M Pitt & Co
Units 6 & 7, 2 Philip Street
STRATHFIELD NSW 2135

Dated: 02 November 2015



Chartered Accountants

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

Annual Report 2014/2015 - The Women's Library

The Women's Library Inc

Balance Sheet As at 30 June 2015

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	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Assets		
Current Assets		
St George Cheque Account	4,371.37	5,381.81
Total Current Assets	<u>4,371.37</u>	<u>5,381.81</u>
Non-current Assets		
Computers at Cost	17,226.00	17,226.00
Computers Accum Dep	(17,226.00)	(16,350.04)
MOAs at Cost	69.00	69.00
MOAs Accum Dep	(69.00)	(69.00)
Total Non-Current Assets	<u>-</u>	<u>875.96</u>
Total Assets	<u><u>4,371.37</u></u>	<u><u>6,257.77</u></u>
Equity		
Retained Earnings	6,257.77	6,139.85
Current Year Surplus/(Deficit)	(1,886.40)	117.92
Total Equity	<u><u>4,371.37</u></u>	<u><u>6,257.77</u></u>

The accompanying Notes form part of these financial statements

Annual Report 2014/2015 - The Women's Library

The Women's Library Inc Profit & Loss Statement

For the year ended 30 June 2015

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	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Income		
2nd Hand Bookshop Sales	430.35	1,479.15
LINC Grant	-	700.00
Special Events	-	10.00
Memberships	943.00	1,237.60
Group Donations	1,901.90	1,655.60
Individual Donations	422.50	541.80
WOLF Payments	-	25.00
Internet/Photocopy/Phone	7.00	4.00
Bank interest	0.42	0.47
Total Income	<u>3,705.17</u>	<u>5,653.62</u>
Expenses		
Audit Fees	440.00	440.00
Bank Fees	121.00	122.40
Cleaning & Maintenance	158.40	158.40
Depreciation	875.96	875.96
Dept of Fair Trading	53.00	52.00
Equipment Purchases	548.95	1,010.85
Insurances	1,408.00	1,280.00
Post Box	115.00	128.00
Printing & Postage	-	182.45
Stationary	22.33	72.00
Telephone	898.53	699.29
Computer Expenses	186.00	34.95
Netspace ADSL Connection	479.40	479.40
Fair Day Stall	285.00	-
Total Expenses	<u>5,591.57</u>	<u>5,535.70</u>
Operating Surplus/ (Deficit)	<u><u>(1,886.40)</u></u>	<u><u>117.92</u></u>

The accompanying Notes form part of these financial statements

**STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE OF
THE WOMEN'S LIBRARY INC.**

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The Committee have determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The Committee have determined that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the accounts.

In the opinion of the committee the financial statements:

- 1 Present fairly the financial position of the Women's Library Inc. as at 30 June 2015 and the results of the association for the year ended on that date.
- 2 At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Women's Library Inc will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with the resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:



**Anna Kerr
Secretary**



**Freddie Landgraf
Treasurer**

Dated: 02 November 2015

Annual Report 2014/2015 - *The Women's Library*

C M PITT & CO

Chartered Accountants

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**Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of
The Women's Library. Incorporated**

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I have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report of the Women's Library Inc., which comprises the committee's report, the assets and liabilities statement as at 30 June 2015, the income and expenditure statement for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the statement by members of the committee.

Committee's responsibility for the Financial Report

The committee of the Women's Library Inc. is responsible for the preparation of the financial report, and has determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Women's Library Inc. and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The committee's responsibility also includes such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on my audit. I have conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the association's preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view, in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Women's Library Inc. as at 30 June 2014 and its financial performance of the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, and the NSW Associations Incorporation Act.

Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution

Without modifying my opinion, I draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist the Women's Library Inc. to meet the requirements of the NSW Associations Incorporation Act. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable of another purpose.


Charles M Pitt
C M PITT & CO
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

ICCA Membership No. 20180
Registered Company Auditor No. 2944
Unit 6 & 7, 2 Philip Street Strathfield

Dated: 2 November 2015



Chartered Accountants