

# Newsletter

November 2010

TenForty  
Matrix  
www.olderdykes.org

## End of Year Party

For Ten Forty Matrix women and friends

**7pm Saturday 18 December 2009**

At St Peters

Bring a plate of festive food to share and a Lucky Dip gift – (something you'd like to receive yourself - price guide around \$15)

To RSVP and for more details -  
email [contact@olderdykes.org](mailto:contact@olderdykes.org)

## Dinner and discussion

**Saturday 5 February  
6.00 pm**

**Topic: What do you want Ten  
Forty to look like in 2011?**

Come along and have your say ...

Summer Hill Community  
Centre, 131 Smith Street,  
Summer Hill

BYO food to share and your  
own drinks.

Entry fee: \$10 fully waged, \$5  
concession.

The Community Centre is near  
Lackey Street. There is parking  
near the Centre.

By train, the Community  
Centre is on the right hand side  
of the station, going towards  
the City.

## Dykes for Dinner

**Thursday 11 November 2010  
6.30pm**

**Il Goloso**

60 Dalhousie Street Haberfield  
BYO

RSVP to

[contact@olderdykes.org](mailto:contact@olderdykes.org) no later  
than Sunday 7 November

156 Darling Street Balmain  
(Balmain Bowling Club)

Licensed

RSVP to

[contact@olderdykes.org](mailto:contact@olderdykes.org) no later  
than Sunday 5 December

**Thursday 13 January 2011  
6.30pm**

**Marina Lunga**

367 Darling Street Balmain  
(opposite the PO)

BYO

RSVP to

[contact@olderdykes.org](mailto:contact@olderdykes.org) no later  
than Sunday 9 January

### About

#### Ten Forty Matrix

Ten Forty Matrix is an informal group of lesbians over forty, many of whom have been socially and politically active in Sydney since 1987.

We enjoy discussion and debate on the issues we face in work, life and at home, and hold regular fun events to keep us in touch with the lighter side of life.

Ten years ago we established the website [www.olderdykes.org](http://www.olderdykes.org) to encourage national and international connections between older lesbians.

Ten Forty Matrix is not an organisation you have to join, but if you want to receive regular information about our activities and our bi-monthly newsletter, you need to take out a newsletter subscription.

#### Newsletter subscription

The annual subscription for a hard copy of our bi-monthly newsletter is \$10 payable in January each year.

Subscriptions can be paid at Ten Forty Dinner and Discussion evenings.

To receive a free emailed newsletter, please email [contact@olderdykes.org](mailto:contact@olderdykes.org)

To receive a hard copy please email [contact@olderdykes.org](mailto:contact@olderdykes.org)



## Trivia Night

Many thanks to Gail for her creativity and hard work preparing questions for our trivia night in October which managed to cover a lot of lesbian history and culture in a very short time. Answers ranged from the fairly obvious Sappho via Natalie Barney in Paris and Rita Mae Brown in the US to the more Sydney-centric and obscure (at least for some of us) *Freda Stairs* - a 70's lesbian tap dancing group.

Those of us who previously had gaps in our lezzo knowledge will now be able to come out with nuggets of lesbian trivia at unpredictable moments much to everyone's envy and amazement. As well as setting the questions Gail also deftly handled

scoring disputes and donated fantastic prizes.

There was some confusion and dismay at the start of the evening when a man (to all outward appearances at least) arrived with two lesbian friends. His entry wasn't challenged at the door as it appeared he might have come as an invited guest. We learnt later that all three had come to the trivia night under the impression that it was going to be a fundraiser.

In the unlikely event (it has never happened before!) that a man turns up for any future event, we will make it immediately clear to them that Ten Forty is a lesbian social group and that their presence at our gatherings is not welcome.



## House Arrest

No Aung San Suu Kyi,  
I,  
Flower in her hair,  
Delicate hauteur  
Facing off the generals  
Over her front gate.

No Galileo Galillei  
I,  
Scoping the solar system  
Rattling the gold chains  
Of Mother Church.

No Donald Wood  
I,  
In black ink enraging  
The masters of apartheid.

More's the pity.

But my gaoler  
Is as unsmiling  
And implacable  
As theirs.

© Kate O'Brien

## Dens of inequity!

My number two daughter, Lesley, wanted to join a local golf club but found they all have women as associates only (in this day and age!). She said: Mum, I won't join. They are dens of inequity.

Jan

## Attention all fun loving lesbians over 40

The L40 reunion for 2011 is to be held over Easter at Lake Macquarie. Access is either by train to Morisset or own transport.

Thursday 21 April 4pm to  
Monday 25 April 2pm 2011.

The cost is \$340 concession

and \$400 full wage. This covers all food and beverages and accommodation for four nights. For those on low incomes who are travelling some distance we will be able to offer a little support. Activities include discussions

and workshops on many topics, water activities (bring your own equipment), a concert, story telling, scenic walks, relaxing and much, much more.

Email [contact@olderdykes.org](mailto:contact@olderdykes.org) for further information.

## Eve

Let's face it  
Eden was a bore  
nothing to do  
but walk naked in the sun  
make love  
and talk  
but no one had any problems  
to speak of  
nothing to read  
a swim  
or lunch might seem special;  
even afternoon tea wasn't invented  
nor wine  
a nap might be a highlight  
no radio  
perhaps they sang a bit  
but as yet no one had made up  
many songs  
and after the honeymoon  
wouldn't they be bored  
walking and talking  
with never a worry in the world  
they didn't need to invent an atom  
or prove the existence of God  
no it had to end  
Eve showed she was the bright one  
bored witless by Adam  
no work  
and eternal bliss  
she saw her chance  
they say the snake tempted her to it  
don't believe it  
she bit because she hungered to know  
the clever thing  
she wasn't kicked out  
she walked out

Kate Llewellyn

## Revisioning Aging

*Revisioning Aging: Empowerment of Older Women* edited by Jenny Onyx, Rosemary Leonard and Rosslyn Reed is a collection of writings that explore the prevailing social, political, economic and discursive contexts that have shaped the experience of ageing for women. Cost is \$18 (incl. postage) from [rosslyn.reed@yahoo.com.au](mailto:rosslyn.reed@yahoo.com.au)

## Grandmas don't know everything

Nine year old Jack was staying with his grandmother for a few days. He'd been playing outside with the other kids for a while when he came into the house and asked her, 'Grandma, what's that called when two people sleep in the same room and one is on top of the other?'

She was a little taken aback, but decided to tell him the truth. 'It's called sexual intercourse, darling.'

Jack said, 'Oh, ok,' and went back outside to play with the other kids.

A few minutes later he came back in and said angrily, 'Grandma, it isn't called sexual intercourse. It's called bunk beds. And Jimmy's mum wants to talk to you.'

## Jill Johnston 1929-2010

Jill Johnston wrote *Lesbian Nation: The Feminist Solution* which spearheaded the lesbian separatist movement of the early 1970s. Read the NY Times article at [www.nytimes.com/2010/09/21/arts/21johnston.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/09/21/arts/21johnston.html) and watch some amazing video footage of an on-stage debate at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y2NfUw-UiKo&feature=related](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y2NfUw-UiKo&feature=related).

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## Ten Forty Matrix

### Who currently does what?

*Bookings, liaison, and general contact:* Jan

*Utilities box:* Sylvia and Wendy

*Money Management:* Esther

*Website management:*

Jan, Ruth, Dorothy, Rob,

Spider and Diann

*Newsletter:* editing and layout

Ruth and Dorothy

*Photocopying:* Judi

*Mail-out:* Esther

If you would like to become

involved in any of the above,

or have some ideas about

social events and/or topics for

our bi-monthly dinner and

discussion evenings, please

email [contact@olderdykes.org](mailto:contact@olderdykes.org)