



# Ten Forty Matrix Newsletter

September 2021

[www.olderdykes.org](http://www.olderdykes.org)

## What's On

**Lesbian Identity and Feminism revisited. By popular demand.**

**Saturday 18 September 4 PM  
Zoom Discussion for Older Lesbians**

Bring your own choice of drink and nibbles to the computer ready for an interesting discussion

RSVP to Diann at  
[maude\\_au@yahoo.com](mailto:maude_au@yahoo.com)

She will send you the link on the day of the discussion.

## Dinner Discussion for older lesbians

**Saturday 9 October**

Do you remember the Lesbian Festival of 1991? This evening will be a time to hear all about it, see a slide show of fabulous photos and share your stories.

Hopefully by October we will be out of lockdown. If not, the next Dinner Discussion for older lesbians will be on Zoom. More info to follow on Contact.



## OutStanding LGBTQIA Short Story Competiton 2021

**OutStanding LGBTQIA+ Short Story Competition 2021**



- OutStanding Short Story Competition 2021 has been launched.
- The theme this year is Ooops!
- Send us your 750-word story by 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021.
- A truly inclusive LGBTQIA+ community event.
- Many great prizes and free to enter.
- All details and rules [www.outstandingstories.net](http://www.outstandingstories.net)

[www.outstandingstories.net](http://www.outstandingstories.net)

We need your Lesbian stories here.

## Ten Forty Matrix Go to Canberra

Thursday 20 – Monday 24 May

### *Reflections from Pearlie*

Twenty-eight women, ready for adventure, departed Sydney for Canberra on Thursday 20th May, all except one of our group, Maree, already based in our capital city. Maree had warned us via email about possible cold weather, but it was not as chilly as expected. It is probably true that the crisp air and warm sunshine each day added to our sense of well-being.

Our accommodation at the caravan park was comfortable and varied. The staff, as usual, from our many visits, were remarkably helpful and friendly. Daniela and I wanted to take our bathroom shower arrangement home with us but were mildly frustrated by the lack of a good light in the social area of our cabin.

Our first group get-together was Thursday night. The venue was the on-site restaurant in the caravan park. The delight noted in the smiles and greetings was a joy to be part of. How wonderful to meet up face to face, beyond the dimensions of a computer screen.

We chatted and ordered dinner and kept on talking ... so much to catch up on, it seemed. Most of us knew each other but there were new women to meet and get to know. It was all so friendly and familiar.

**The Know My Name** exhibition, the inspiration for our trip, was not as extensive as advertised, but our two organisers, Jan, and the ever-obliging Maree, had worked a minor miracle, arranging as consolation, free tickets to the **Botticelli to Van Gogh** exhibition, for later that day, plus, most importantly, a guide to take us through the 60% of the exhibition that we could see.

Yvette was superb at her job, and kept us enthralled with her detailed knowledge, good diction (isn't it wonderful when a tour guide doesn't mumble?) and a generous willingness to answer our questions. My lasting impression of that day is the sight of all these lesbians, many of them notably stropky still from years of dealing with feminist and lesbian issues, sitting on fold out stools like a group of obedient schoolchildren, listening avidly to their teacher. I smile at the memory.

**Saturday night.** Looking at our table set up for 28 diners in the Thai restaurant, I had

to admire the staff's ability to create such a pleasant scenario. That long line of tables with a circular table at each end and chairs all around, was indeed a welcoming sight. Judging by the hum of conversation that travelled up and down that line, it was obvious there was a lot to talk about.



There was much to do over those few days and I think we all made the most of our time in Canberra.

Our last time together as a large group was Sunday night at a Vietnamese restaurant, one of the very few open in the nearby suburbs on a Sunday night. Noisy and crowded, my end of the table was mainly concerned with a car, belonging to one of our group that proved to have a dodgy gearbox. This car was not going to get the driver and her partner home. Problem solving, though, is part of our DNA

wouldn't you agree, and before too long arrangements had been made. Help and support was at hand.

From the feedback received since, I think it is safe to conclude that everyone had a good time. Personally, I don't think we can over-estimate the value of events such as this, or the appreciation expressed by the women who respond to the events our 10/40 group organises.

### *Reflections from Sylvia*

Over the years Ten Forty Matrix has made a number of visits to Canberra mainly to see exhibitions at the National Gallery of Australia. With no camp possible due to the difficulties for long range plans with COVID-19 still hovering over us all the time, and outbreaks here and there, the Ten Forty Committee agreed on the suggestion to attend the, "Know My Name" exhibition of Australian Women Artists. As well as a chance to see the acclaimed exhibition, we were looking forward to a chance to have fun with a large group of friends. 28 women found their way to our capital city.

We are fortunate that one of our members and former committee member, Maree, lives in Canberra, and Amazingly, we

Jan, a committee member, is a former resident and regular visitor to Canberra, as well as a member of the National Gallery of Australia. These two women worked together to arrange tickets for everyone to attend the National Gallery of Australia on Friday 21 May, with a wonderful guided tour. Maree arranged the restaurant for a group dinner Saturday. She also arranged a booking at the Alivio Restaurant on Thursday night and provided us with an array of information about Canberra and Events.

Our favourite location, over many visits, has been Alivio Tourist Park, (once called Canberra Motor Village). There is a wide variety of accommodation including three-bedroom cabins (more like houses), various levels of two-bedroom cabins, motel rooms, van and caravan sites as well as tent spaces. It is just a 10-minute drive to the city centre.

There was a lot to do in Canberra and women occupied themselves with visits to other galleries in particular the National Portrait Gallery exhibition. "Australian Love Stories." Some went to the Canberra Glassworks, National Film and Sound Archive and the amazing Arboretum.

As well as the visit to the National Gallery of Australia, Diann, well known twitcher, arranged a visit to the Jerrabomberra Wetlands. Sylvia arranged a bike ride around the lake.

### *The Bike Ride*

We were five riders with an assortment of bikes. Two standard bikes and three electric bikes; one a fold up. We were not long underway on Saturday morning when we got into difficulties.

Despite numerous maps and careful planning our leader Sylvia lost her way in the Canberra maze. Friendly locals set us on the right track. Then the lovely fold up bike engine failed to work. With small wheels and no power, it was hard to ride. Despite this the rider persisted and we found our way to a local bike shop to park the electric bike and hire a standard.

The sun shone down from a clear blue sky. We were all rugged up and soon started to peel off some clothing. Morning coffee at the Information Centre on Lake Burley Griffin helped us on our way along the northern section of the Central Loop with splendid views over the lake. We cycled the more rural Eastern Loop which follows the river and passes through Jerrabomberra Wetlands.

intersected with the birdwatchers as they completed their walk around the Nature Reserve.

Cycling along we came to delightful Kingston. This well-planned low rise, well-spaced, water-fronted suburb is a mecca of cafes and restaurants. We stopped for lunch.

Next, we visited the Glassworks, located in an old power station. Completing the Central Loop, it was time to get back to base and get ready for the evening meal. Maybe our next visit to Canberra we can cycle the Western Loop. On local roads, we took a more direct route back to Alivio Tourist Park.

Good news post Canberra visit, the fold up electric bike only had a minor problem and is now functioning well, ready for its next outing.



*Imagine this: A little girl is drinking a glass of ginger beer, laced with a scoop of ice-cream. Her friend upends the last of the ginger beer into the little girl's glass. Out drops a decomposed snail. Soon enough, the child was ill.*

*The snail scene happened 93 years ago, in Paisley, Scotland, and the snail became a legal legend. The ginger beer manufacturer was sued and, as it happens, the law of negligence came into being. In Britain's House of Lords, Judge Atkins (born in Brisbane actually) made it clear once the judgement was made for the child that "The rule that you are to love your neighbour becomes in law, you must not injure your neighbour."*

*So why am I telling you this now?*

*Just prior to one of Melbourne's lockdown periods, in May this year, an important judgement decision was handed down by Federal Court Justice Mordecai Bromberg.*

*He was tackling the relevance of the decomposed snail story in a case 'Sharma v Minister for the Environment' on what might well be the most important climate case in this country to date.*

*A nun, Sister Bridget Arthur, on behalf of children in her care, was out to prevent Environment Minister, Sussan Ley, from going ahead to approve an extension of the Vickery coal mine in NSW. It is reported that 100 million tonnes of carbon dioxide would be released into the atmosphere, in addition to the pollution the mine already discharges.*

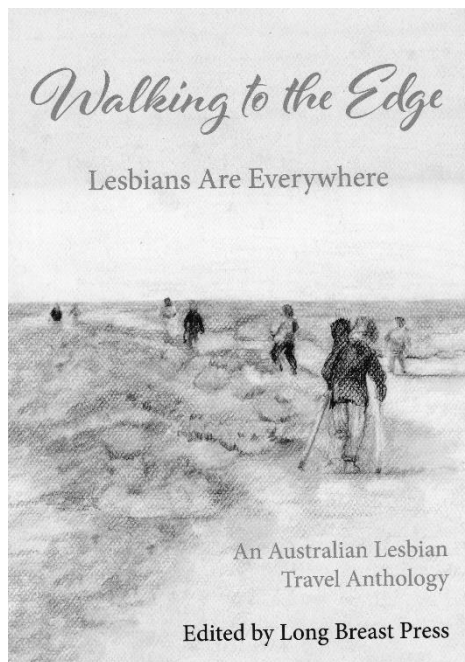
*The decision in favour of the children is incredible. But don't breathe easy yet. The Minister can of course appeal. If she does, her position will be transparent. She will be revealing that for her government, children's health, anyone's health, is just not important enough.*

*Watch this space!!*

## Report on Dinner and Discussion for Older Lesbians Saturday 5 June 2021

### The Travel we've done and what we want to do!

A Panel of NSW Lesbian writers talked about their stories of travel, all of which feature in the Lesbian travel anthology book, ***Walking to the Edge***



The panel were Kaye Paton, Mia Saunders, Sand Hall, Jack Draper, Sylvia Kinder and Pearlie McNeill in that order. Following Acknowledgement of Wangal Country and general announcements each speaker read from and talked about their story.

Despite the cool, winter evening, twenty eight women made the journey to hear stories of travels by lesbians. Still following COVID Safe rules women brought their own meals, some ordered pizza and all settled down to heating up food and unpacking eskies. We look forward to a time when we can return to our wonderful shared meals. This evening was all about what we have missed so much for the last 18 months, travel!

**Kaye** spoke about being a 'bloomer' and her travels both physical and the psychological journey to coming out as a lesbian. She moved to the Blue Mountains in 1989 when there was little social organisation for lesbians. She talked about the gradual growth of groups like a support group 'Friends of Dorothy' and later bushwalking with Bush lemons.

**Mia**, the youngest lesbian in the room, talked about her recent journey. She drove to Women's Land with Tashe, a veteran of Women's Land. As they drove North, Tashe explained a little about the history and daily reality living on the land. On arrival there was work to do following the fires and storms. Tashe demonstrated how to use a chainsaw. Mia followed instructions and was soon engaged in clearing smaller felled trees. She marvelled at the strong women who were working alongside her.

**Sand** was the perfect speaker to follow as she has curated two great anthologies about Women's Land. She related how as a young woman she moved from New Zealand her native land, lived on Women's Land, then travelled to the UK.

This was just the start of a long series of adventures, travelling in the company of other young lesbians or to lesbian venues. Not in chronological order Sand spent time in squats in Hackney, London (remember all those squats!), with lesbians in Wales, and travelling with a group of lesbians through Europe; Spain, Germany, France, Denmark and later to India and Nepal.

Sand's travels were epic and full of multicultural lesbian experiences. For more, read her entry in the anthology.

**Jack** talked to us about her travels in 1993 to the 'Perth Les Fest', her entry in the anthology. Inspired by Jan Gladys' idea of a Greyhound bus full of lesbians travelling across the Nullabour, a plan was made to hire a 12-seater bus and collect women from Wollongong, Canberra and Adelaide.

As an artist Jack made a number of pictures of the journey, one is the front cover of the book, featuring women walking on the cliffs above the Bight with Jan G bravely walking on her sticks.

Jack described a journey of laughter and adventure, camping and learning about each other. Then to a fun festival of lesbian delights! Almost a tale of the way lesbians live together.

**Sylvia** talked about the three life changing journeys she has made. The first was her migration in 1967 to Australia, aged 19. A decision never for a moment regretted.

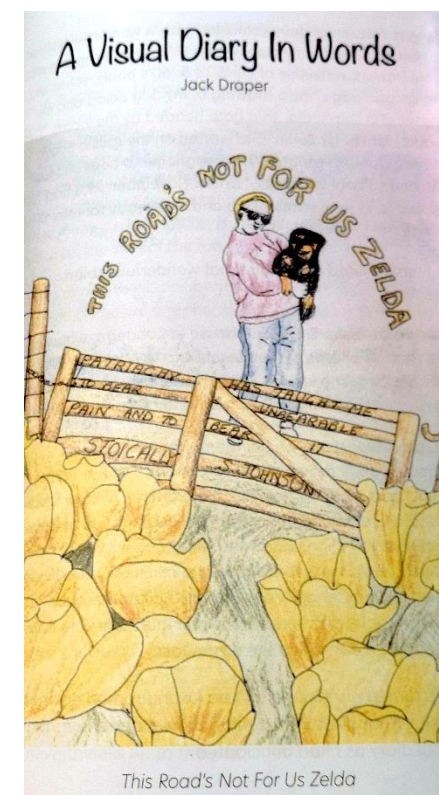
Four years later aged 23, a journey that changed her life ... travelling back to the UK to and taking on care and responsibility for her two younger sisters after the sudden death of their mother. Sylvia brought her sisters back to live with her in Adelaide.

The third life change came when at 42 she fell in love with a German woman on sabbatical in Australia. Following a year of letters and phone calls she packed up everything; job, home, said goodbye to her friends and family and flew to Germany. A new life again; a relationship, more travel, work, learning a language, building a lesbian community, awaited her. Seven years later Sylvia returned, alone, to Australia to begin rebuilding her life at age 49.

**Pearlie's** talk covered her last journey in 2017, with her beloved Meg, partner of 31 years. The planned journey to Western Australia started badly with a plane delay and hours of waiting in the airport. Hungry and tired, on arrival they slept well and the true journey began. With visits to Perth, Margaret River and a memorable stay in Broome, Pearlie and Meg spent almost four happy weeks together. But the

knowledge that this was a final heartbreaking trip was forever on their minds. Pearlie finished by reading a poem written by Meg a year before her death. There was a feeling of suspense in the room, and respect for two women bravely sharing such a sad story, but also one full of love.

Following the presentations there were some questions and comments from the audience as well as contributions to the list of travel tales. Stories of being bogged in the desert, giving up flying to save the environment, and tales of the Vandykes, an online group who own campervans of various types, or just their car and travel and meet in various parts of Australia.



*Long Breast Press Inc. Melbourne, is a not for profit, lesbian publisher established in 2005 with the aim of publishing writings by, for and about lesbians. The three collective members Barbary, Jean and Claudia, have their travel stories included in the anthology. Thanks go to this amazing trio who have to date, six titles to their credit.*

*Sand Hall has curated two anthologies of stories about Women's Lands, **Amazon Acres**, **You Beauty** and **Shelters and Building**. Thanks go to Sand Hall and her contributors for all the work that goes into recording such a valuable lesbian history.*

*Copies of all the books are available for \$25 each. Contact Sylvia [skinder@bigpond.net.au](mailto:skinder@bigpond.net.au) for details on how to obtain copies.*

*Thanks also go to our team of helpers who set up, and packed up the room, in particular Ping, Diann and Wendy F.*

## **Report of Bookish Conversations** **Conversations with Katherine Howell** **20 June 2021 – a ZOOM event**

Our latest bookish conversation was on Sunday 20 June. We discussed 'work' and the role it plays in fiction and nonfiction.

Hayley Katzen and Emma Ashmere spoke with special guest Katherine Howell.

25 women joined us to chat about work and its role in the books we read and write – and to hear what Katherine is up to these days.

Katherine worked as a paramedic for fifteen years and used that experience in her series of crime novels featuring Sydney homicide detective Ella Marconi. Her crime fiction has won awards and is published internationally in multiple formats and translations. *Tell the Truth*, published in 2015, was the final book in the series.

To start off the conversation she talked about working as a Paramedic, how she moved from being a paramedic to writing professionally and how her career had

influenced her writing. She talked us through her writing process. She considered one of the most important things was to be able to put yourself into other people's shoes. Her work life experience helped this.

She always asked herself, "How do I make people feel things, and keep them reading."

She said she took a break from writing, partly because the publisher considered she had not sold enough books. She says most of a writer's sales are actually out of their control. She decided to go back to Uni and now works as an anaesthetic nurse. She found she also had to take up some other creative endeavour to replace the creative process of writing. She currently does leatherwork. She is undecided as to when she might start writing again. But I for one am hopeful she will start a new series soon.

All in all, it was a great ZOOM session. Women asked questions and shared information. Women could share experiences, even though they were living in different States or places in NSW.

NB The audio version will appear on our website soon. You will be able to hear the details of an interesting conversation.

Diann

## WOMAN TO WOMAN

By Carol Booth

Carol Booth will be launching an e-book version of Woman to Woman on 1st September, so it seems timely to run this review again, to remind you all what a good book this really is.

The inspiration for this book came about because of a discussion over dinner one night, about what lesbians do in bed. Four women guests. All doctors. Two of them straight.

One of the straight women said what she thought.

“Lesbian sex is just sort of mutual masturbation, isn't it?”

Carol writes an answer to that question in her Introduction.

‘This description prompts most lesbians to expressions of outrage. It leaves out the essence of lesbian sex, the colour and vibrancy of women making love with each other. That night I decided that this book had to be written.’

And then there was the title. Carol envisaged something like The Australian Every Woman's Guide to Lesbian Sex, or maybe leave out the word Australian? The publishers, Simon and Schuster, knocked that idea on its head quick smart, perhaps it was the ‘every woman’ slant? A softer edge was called for, so the book became known as Woman to Woman. Maybe we should be grateful S and S published it at all?

Over a hundred women told Carol their stories in a variety of interviews. but she involved her friends as well. As she says in her Acknowledgements page ...

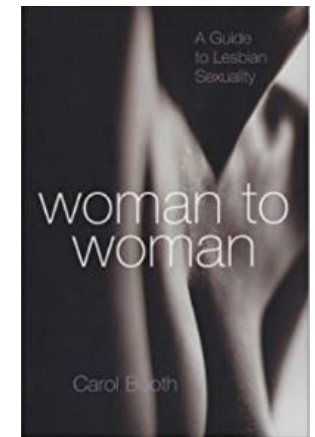
‘For my friends who read countless drafts, made suggestions and unrestrainedly told me their stories. Some answered telephone calls that began with ...”Help, I'm stuck, tell me about your orgasms ...”’

We can assume Carol has some very good friends who trust her. After all, how many of us are asked by a friend to talk about our orgasms, and over the phone.

I'm very glad Carol Booth wrote this book. It is a joy to read; informative, accessible and almost overwhelming in its all-encompassing approach.

I know it was written twenty years ago but it reads as fresh today as it must have done then.

Pearlie



**ZOOM Re-Launch of: Woman to Woman,  
By Carol Booth will be Wednesday  
1 September 2021 7pm**

**Launch presenters include Pearlie McNeill  
and Jean Taylor**

**if you are interested in attending contact  
Carol [carol.booth.w2w@gmail.com](mailto:carol.booth.w2w@gmail.com).**

## In Memory of Two Great Lesbian Singers

Lesley Gore and Dusty Springfield were both well-known singers of the 60s and 70s. Many of us older lesbians would have been teenagers at the time but how delightful to find out that these two women were lesbians. So typical of our formative years when there were so few examples of successful, beautiful, talented lesbians as role models. Mostly, we found lesbians to admire in literature but so many of these women were unhappy with their lives.

As a fan of both Lesley Gore and Dusty Springfield I was fascinated to discover how one represents the out and happy lesbian, while the other the lesbian afraid of being outed, her life one of sadness.

### Lesley Gore 1946 – 2015

Lesley was only two years older than me. She was born Lesley Sue Goldstein, May 2, 1946 in New York. She was known professionally as Lesley Gore. I wonder if racism towards Jews was a reason for changing her surname. She was a singer, songwriter, actress, and activist. At the age of 16, she recorded the pop hit *It's My Party*, a number one hit in the US, in 1963.

She followed up with ten further *Billboard* Top 40 hits including *Judy's Turn to Cry* and *You Don't Own Me*. It was the latter hit that appealed to me as a 16-year-old sitting, ears glued to Radio Luxembourg evening pop music program. I have never forgotten the lyrics. The song was used as part of the fourth series, *The Handmaid's Tale*, on television.

Lesley Gore (together with her brother Michael Gore) composed songs for the soundtrack of the 1980 film *Fame*, for which she received an Academy Award nomination for *Out Here on My Own*. She also co-wrote the song, *Secret Love*, for the 1996 film *Grace of My Heart*.

The film includes a subplot about a young singer named Kelly Porter, who is based in part on Gore and is played by Bridget Fonda. The character, a closeted lesbian, performs *Secret Love* in the film. Lesley Gore was better known in later years for her work on USA television and films.

In a 2005 interview with *After Ellen*, she stated she was a lesbian. She had been in a relationship (with luxury jewellery designer Lois Sasson) since 1982. She had known about her attraction to women from the time she was 20 and stated that although the music business was "totally homophobic" she never felt she had to pretend she was straight. "I just kind of lived my life naturally and did what I wanted to do," she said. "I didn't avoid anything; I didn't put it in anybody's face."

Lesley had been working on a memoir and a Broadway show based on her life when she died of lung cancer on February 16, 2015, at the age of 68. At the time of her death, Gore and Sasson had been together for 33 years.



*Lesley Gore in 1967*

### **Dusty Springfield 1939 - 1999**

Dusty is nine years older than me but is also one of that group of singers that influenced my life. I did see her live once at, 'The Empire Theatre' in Liverpool U.K. around 1966. She looked fabulous with her bouffant hair and sparkling, tight fitting, evening dress, and dark eye make-up. All of which was a bit out of fashion then for those of us into Mary Quant minis and long straight hair or a Vidal Sassoon short cut.

Dusty Springfield's real name was Mary Isobel Catherine Bernadette O'Brien. She was born in London 16 April 1939. Known professionally as Dusty Springfield, she had an amazing voice and was well known for perfectionism in her work. During her 1960s peak she ranked among the most successful British female performers on both sides of the Atlantic and was an icon of the Swinging Sixties. She was also a frequent personality on British television, and won many music awards, as well as an OBE.

Singing in local folk clubs with her brother Tom, she started her professional career as part of an all-girl singing group, *The Lana Sisters* in 1958. In 1960 she joined Tom and Tim Field to form the folk group *The Springfields*. Folk music was very popular amongst the young progressives in the 60s,

just like the Australian folk group *The Seekers*, formed in 1962. In 1963 Dusty made her debut as a solo singer with *I only want to be with you*. This famous song became the underground lesbian anthem, most notably because the lyrics give no indication of the loved objects sex. I have known all the words for years. It was actually written by Mike Hawker for his new bride. By the 1990s Dusty had also become a camp icon, with her ultra-glamorous look and this, combined with her emotive vocal performances, won her a powerful and enduring following in the gay community. She was the prototypical female for drag queens. Dusty had a discography of great diversity. In later years she even made records with 'The Pet Shop Boys'.

Dusty certainly had a lot of anxiety about being outed as a lesbian and losing her career. This may have had something to do with her bouts of drinking and self-harm (for which she was hospitalised). Later she was diagnosed with a bipolar condition. The pressure of being in the limelight and frequently questioned about her private life, (she never had a male partner), must have increased her mental health problems.

Dusty had many lesbian relationships but most were short-lived. She met an American actress, Teda Bracci, at an AA meeting in 1982;

they moved in together in April 1983; seven months later exchanged vows at a wedding ceremony, (not official). Fuelled by alcohol the relationship was violent and ended within two years.

In 1994 Dusty was diagnosed with breast cancer and the treatment that followed appeared to work. But the cancer returned and she died in 1999, shortly before her 60<sup>th</sup> birthday.



***Dusty Springfield in 1966***

Both Lesley Gore and Dusty Springfield bravely forged fame in the very patriarchal music industry as brave talented lesbians. They both deserve an important place in lesbian history, they certainly have one in mine.

Sylvia

## I Only Want to Be with You

Dusty Springfield

I don't know what it is that makes me love  
you so

I only know I never want to let you go  
'Cause you started something, oh, can't you  
see?

That ever since we met you've had a hold on  
me  
It happens to be true; I only want to be with  
you

It doesn't matter where you go or what you  
do  
I want to spend each moment of the day with  
you  
Well, look what has happened with just one  
kiss

I never knew that I could be in love like this  
It's crazy but it's true, I only want to be with  
you

You stopped and smiled at me  
Asked if I'd care to dance  
I fell into your open arms  
And I didn't stand a chance

Now, listen, honey, I just want to be beside  
you everywhere  
As long as we're together, honey, I don't care  
'Cause you started something, oh, can't you  
see?

That ever since we met you've had a hold on  
me  
No matter what you do, I only want to be  
with you

Oh, you stopped and you smiled at me  
Asked if I'd care to dance  
I fell into your open arms  
I didn't stand a chance

Now hear me darling, I just want to be  
beside you everywhere

As long as we're together, honey, I don't care  
'Cause you started something, oh, can't you  
see?  
That ever since we met you've had a hold on  
me

No matter what you do, I only want to be  
with you  
I said, no matter, no matter what you do  
I only want to be with you

## YOU DON'T OWN ME

Lesley Gore

Songwriters: David White / John Madara

You don't own me  
I'm not just one of your many toys  
You don't own me  
Don't say I can't go with other boys

And don't tell me what to do  
Don't tell me what to say  
And please, when I go out with you  
Don't put me on display 'cause

You don't own me  
Don't try to change me in any way  
You don't own me  
Don't tie me down 'cause I'd never stay

I don't tell you what to say  
I don't tell you what to do  
So just let me be myself  
That's all I ask of you

I'm young and I love to be young  
I'm free and I love to be free  
To live my life the way I want  
To say and do whatever I please

And don't tell me what to do  
Oh, don't tell me what to say  
And please, when I go out with you  
Don't put me on display

I don't tell you what to say  
I don't tell you what to do  
So just let me be myself  
That's all I ask of you

I'm young and I love to be young  
I'm free and I love to be free

## Review

### SIX OF THE BEST: NEW BOOKS BY WOMEN WRITERS

These you may love or hate but they are all interesting, have good feminist and occasionally lesbian themes and characters and some have unusual historic or foreign backgrounds.

#### ***The Dictionary of Lost Words by Pip Williams***

This story is about the compilation of the Oxford English Dictionary told through the eyes of a young woman, Esme. It covers her involvement in the work, the women's suffrage movement and the effects of WWI on the local population. Esme's life is marked by all the usual problems that women have, plus a few more. The author is Australian and the writing and plotting are excellent with an Aussie twist at the end.

#### ***The Family Doctor by Debra Oswald***

This is a domestic violence story with a difference. It concerns a family doctor and, as the line on the cover says 'Must she take a life to save a life?' Well known Australian writer who writes an engrossing story, very competently plotted and written. But not cheerful.

#### ***The Mad Women's Ball by Victoria Mas.***

Translated from French and being made into a film, this is a rich and slightly terrifying piece about a Paris asylum, the Salpêtrière, and Dr Charcot, a famous hypnotist, and his patients. The patients are those difficult women we all know and possibly are. Very good translation and a fast-moving plot.

#### ***Harbour View by GM Wilson***

This is a first novel by one of us which appears to be self-published. It is always pleasant to read something set in Sydney with people and scenery one can relate to. Worth a look.

#### ***Miss Graham's Cold War Cookbook by Celia Rees.***

Celia Rees is an English writer who has been a prolific writer of young adult fiction. This book is definitely for adults and the subtitle: Germany – 1946. A Reluctant Spy is Born – is a warning. It has a clever and rather dark plot, very woman-centred, and highlights a period in post war history which I found illuminating and which has not been much explored.

#### ***The Bombay Prince by Sujata Massey. + The Murder at Malabar Hill & The Satapur Moonstone***

The author was born in the UK, has Indian and German parents, and lives in the USA. She has mainly written stories with a Japanese background; you can't get more multiracial than that! However, this book is her third based in India about her main character, Perveen Mistry, the first woman lawyer in India. These stories are based on a real person and they are set among the small religious group of Parsi people who practice Zoroastrianism.

Jan



## The Newsletter

We, Diann and Pearlie, hope you have enjoyed reading the newsletter.

Please keep giving us your feedback and let us know topics of interest you feel need to be shared in the newsletter.

Follow us on FaceBook

[Ten Forty Matrix NSW](#)

Browse our Website

[www.olderdykes.org](http://www.olderdykes.org)



1970s chat room using Windows



## About Ten Forty and Older Dykes

The first national conference of Ten Forty in the mid-eighties attracted politically active feminists of all hues and sexualities. Over time it became obvious that a huge majority of women attending follow-up meetings and activities in Sydney were lesbian feminists. Today Ten Forty and Older Dykes refer to the same group of women. We enjoy discussion 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. Our website <http://www.olderdykes.org> encourages national and international connections between older lesbians. Ten Forty is not an organisation you have to join, though members do get some discounts. If you want to receive regular information about our activities and our bi-monthly newsletter, visit our website and put yourself on our email list.

## Newsletter

The newsletter comes out on our email list. If you do not receive it, email us [contact@olderdykes.org](mailto:contact@olderdykes.org). The web edition and back copies of the newsletter are available for download from our website.

## Who currently does what?

**Events planning:** Sylvia, Diann, Wendy

**Contact email list:** Diann, Niki

**Archives:** Sylvia and Jan

**Money Management:** Fiona

**Websisters:** Jan, Ruth, Diann, Pearlie, Niki

**Newsletter:** editing and layout Pearlie and Diann

**Management committee:** Jan, Caryl, Sylvia, Pearlie, Diann, Fiona, Wendy, Chris, Alison