



## **LESBIAN INFORMATION LIBRARY AND ARCHIVE CENTRE**

187 Willis Street, Wellington  
PO Box 427, Wellington 6140

### **NOTICE OF THE LILAC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2019**

In keeping with the Constitution, a 40-day notice is given that the twenty-fourth Annual General Meeting of LILAC will be held in the LILAC Lounge on the second floor of 187 Willis Street at 6.00pm on Thursday, 14 November 2019.

There are no amendments to the LILAC Constitution proposed by the Collective. Any amendments proposed by current financial members must be in writing, specifying which part of the Constitution is to be amended, providing the precise wording to be considered and also include a brief rationale for the amendment. Any such proposed amendment, signed by two current financial members, must be in the hands of the Collective not later than **2 November 2019**. All such proposed amendments will be circulated to all current financial members not later than **8 November 2019**.

Nominations for members of the Collective should be in writing, moved and seconded by current financial members and have the signed acceptance of the nominee. Nominations must be received by the current Collective not later than **2 November 2019** and will be posted on the LILAC website. The nomination form is on page five of this document.

The Financial Report and audited accounts are distributed with this notice.

#### **Annual Meeting Agenda**

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of 2018 AGM
3. Annual report July 2018 – June 2019
4. Armstrong & Arthur Charitable Trust for Lesbians
5. Financial report and audited accounts
6. Possible cessation of LILAC
7. Amendments to the Constitution - if any
8. Appointment of auditor
9. Election of Collective
10. General Business of which due notice has been given or is deemed permissible to be considered by the financial members present at the AGM

***Light refreshments will be available from 5.30pm.***

## ANNUAL REPORT: JULY 2018 – JUNE 2019

### The year at a glance

The Collective has been working under difficult conditions throughout the year.

Although the Constitution specifies up to 10 members with a minimum of six (6), the maximum number of members this year has been nine (9), one of whom resigned in the middle of the year, another has been overseas for several months, which has left the burden of running LILAC with a very small group. Consequently, not a great deal of time or energy has been available to work through forward looking policy issues. Given the failure to attract more financial members, it has been necessary to focus our efforts on fundraising. More detail on this matter and possible way(s) forward are contained in the Financial Report.

The annual fair, *Out in the Park*, which is a major opportunity to publicise the existence and resources of LILAC was to be on 16 March to coincide with activities surrounding the conference of ILGA. It was, of course, cancelled given the appalling events in Christchurch on 15 March. However, a raffle which was able to be held later did raise \$247.60.

Following the successful fundraiser visit to Circa Theatre last year, we arranged further fundraising outings. Circa's production of *'Bloomsbury Women and the Wild Colonial Girl'* written by well-known lesbian playwright Lorae Parry, was very popular and for which we sold some 41 tickets. The two movie fundraisers *Colette* and *Little Woods* were also successful.

Two enjoyable evening events with entry by koha were held at LILAC, each attracting 15-20 women and providing an opportunity for networking and socialising. Refreshments were available at both events, including wine and cheese (kindly donated by Collective members). The first of these was the opening of Sue Alexander's *Retro Lesbian Postcards* exhibition on 3 April, and the second a panel discussion and Q&A session *Out in Construction*, held on 12 June, where Cathy Tracey, Paula Barnett and Clare Lennard talked about their construction industry experiences.

LILAC's annual open day was held at the library to coincide with the ILGA conference in Wellington. Our numerous overseas guests were impressed by the facilities and resources.

### Armstrong & Arthur Charitable Trust for Lesbians

LILAC has received nearly \$50,000 in funding from the Armstrong & Arthur Trust (A&A Trust) during the 14 years to April 2019. We are very thankful for the Trust's commitment to LILAC as these funds have enabled us to rent our premises throughout that period. As the income of the Trust is dependent on interest received from investments, the very low interest rates have reduced the size of the grants available to support the lesbian community. LILAC is extremely grateful to the A&A Trust for its generous grant this year.

We can all help keep the [Armstrong & Arthur Trust](#) viable and able to support lesbians in the region by making donations or leaving it money in our wills.

## **Collective Membership**

The current members of the Collective are Helen Barlow, Katherine Boyd, Sonia Coles, Sally Elborn, Ellen Faed, Mary Gilbert, Carole Hicks and Marnie Hubmann.

Sue Alexander resigned from the Collective in March 2018 but continues as an invaluable LILAC volunteer. We regret the loss of Jocelyn O’Kane as a Collective member.

The Collective extends its very best wishes to Sal Elborn, currently undergoing treatment in London, and our grateful thanks for her work over the last few years and, in particular, her amazingly generous donation received in September. See also the relevant section of the Financial Report.

## **LILAC Membership**

LILAC welcomed 13 brand new members from January to June, bringing the membership total to 69 at the end of the 2018-2019 financial year. This is equal to the number of members at the same time last year.

At the end of each calendar year those who have not renewed their subs in the previous 12 months are removed from the membership list. While the majority of members do renew each year, there is always a number who don’t renew after their first year of membership or whose membership is intermittent. Members are sent a reminder email, usually in the month their subs are due. Also, members who have not renewed will get a reminder ahead of the AGM as subs must be up to date to attend. Payments are accepted at the AGM from anyone who wishes to join or renew on the day – please arrive **early**! New and returning members are always welcomed.

If you’re not sure whether your subs are up to date or would like to make an online payment, email [lilac-subs@lesbian.net.nz](mailto:lilac-subs@lesbian.net.nz).

## **LILAC Collections**

We have continued to buy new books locally at Unity Books, and we thank Tilly Lloyd for her support. You can always see the latest purchases listed on the [new books webpage](#) with links to reviews. DVD purchasing and borrowing has declined this year – it is not always easy to source DVDs in the preferred Region 4 format, and it seems many members now access movies online.

LILAC currently has 2716 books and 157 DVD titles. We gratefully acknowledge the ongoing donation of DVDs and books to our collections and invite suggestions for purchases.

At the end of the 2017-2018 year we subscribed to three print magazines. We recently cancelled our subscription to Curve (US) because of the substantial overlap of content with LOTL. We continue to purchase *Diva* (UK) and *LOTL* (Australia), and also receive free copies of *Lesbian Connection* (US).

You can check LILAC's online catalogue to see if we have the books you want before you visit the library. The books catalogue is available on [LibraryThing](#). There you can search the catalogue, browse sections of it, and follow links to book reviews and discussions. There are also text-based [author-title lists](#) on the LILAC website that work well on phone browsers.

Many thanks to Ellen for keeping our catalogues up-to-date.

## LILAC Statistics

	July 2018 – June 2019	July 2017 – June 2018
Visitors	356	404
Books borrowed	477	468
DVDs borrowed	32	44
Magazines borrowed	1	5

### Book Club

Our Book (and cake!) Club enjoyed discussions about Stella Duffy, short stories and Claire McNab in the first few months of this year. It has been in recess over winter but will be resurrected when there is enough interest – just email us at [lilac@lesbian.net.nz](mailto:lilac@lesbian.net.nz) if you'd like to come along or have a suggestion for a monthly theme.

### The Coasters

Collective members take a selection of books, DVDs and magazines to the monthly Coasters pot-luck dinners. Members can borrow their selection for a month, returning them at the following dinner. This service is greatly appreciated by the women living on the Kapiti Coast.

### LILAC on Facebook - @LILAClibraryWellington

LILAC posts bookish information such as links to book reviews and to interviews with authors, as well as notices about LILAC events. Go to the [LILAC Facebook page](#) and 'like' us.

### Clippings

With great dedication, Sue Alexander has been collecting clippings, mainly from mainstream media, about lesbians. She has been doing this for over fifty years. Her carefully gleaned articles can be viewed at LILAC. They are collated from the sixties through to the current day in chronological order.

We are most grateful to Sue for this brilliant collection and making it available for general reading at LILAC.

### Volunteers

Where would LILAC be without all our volunteers? The whole organisation is voluntary, from the Collective to all those who help out on the occasional library shift. Thank you so much. Without your dedication there would be no LILAC. Our efforts have kept LILAC functioning. So, thank you all once again.

### Conclusion

We look forward to seeing you at LILAC, especially at the AGM on Thursday, 14 November 2019 at 6.00pm. Refreshments will be available from 5.30pm.

*The LILAC Collective*

## NOMINATION FORM FOR MEMBERS OF THE LILAC COLLECTIVE

I nominate ..... for membership of the LILAC Collective.

Signed:

Nominee: ..... Membership no.....

Nominator: ..... Membership no.....

Nominator: ..... Membership no.....

.....

The person on duty will be able to sign it if you need a nominator.

The signed form must be received by LILAC not later than 2 November 2019. You can

- email an image of the signed form to [lilac@lesbian.net.nz](mailto:lilac@lesbian.net.nz)
- deliver your form to LILAC when we're open or drop it in the book return box
- post your signed form to LILAC PO Box 427 Wellington 6140