

Archive No. 44

Lesbian Newsletter Collective

The first issue of the Lesbian Newsletter was published in March 1976 and distributed as an attachment to the Women's Liberation Newsletter to provide information about lesbian activities, to raise awareness about the specific needs of lesbians, to be a forum for ideas and to give support to lesbians in the community.

The second issue of the Lesbian Newsletter, a half page editorial attempting to stimulate interest in putting together a lesbian publication such as the LN, didn't come out till May 1977. By the third issue, June 1977, the LN was definitely up and running. The LN continued to be printed every two months and sent out with the WLN as an attachment, for financial reasons, till issue 8, January 1978, when the LN was distributed as a publication in its own right.

Almost from the beginning, the LN was printed by Sybylla Press on foolscap paper and stapled at the side. The LN collective continued to publish articles, book reviews, letters, ads for groups, times of meetings and demos and other items of interest to lesbians, including the comic strip Super Dyke by Anne Donald and Jenny Pausacker (which first appeared in LN no 32, October 1981), till issue 43, August 1983.

The first issue of the newly formatted Lesbian News (A4 size, folded and stapled in the middle with a cardboard cover) but with similar articles, ads and items of newsworthy interest to lesbians came out in September / October, 1983. The LN stopped production with issue 40, October / November 1990, when the responsibility for putting out a lesbian publication was taken up by a group who undertook to publish a monthly newspaper called Labrys.