

Reference code

AWWC

Title

Asian Women Writers Collective (AWWC) - SADAA

Extent

4 boxes

Administrative/biographical history

The Asian Women Writers Collective was originally the Asian Women Writers' Workshop. It was founded in 1984, the brainchild of Ravi Randhawa, and was the first workshop for Asian women writers in Britain. The intention was to work with any isolated Asian women who wanted to write, and to provide them with support. Members were all British based Asians, but not all had been born in the UK, and so there were different cultural influences within the group. The organisation grew from a small group of about 10 women, and by 1994 it claimed to be a focus for hundreds of Asian women writers. Some were established authors, while others had little experience of creative writing. The Collective ran weekly meetings, as well as other literary and creative events. In 1987 the Workshop became an official organisation, and changed its name to the Asian Women Writers Collective, or AWWC. When the group began most of the members were from the South Asian community, but by 1992 women from other Asian backgrounds became involved. AWWC shared their work through public readings, and also published anthologies through the Women's Press and Virago. In 1991 AWWC lost funding from the Greater London Arts Association, and had to rely on Lambeth Council. In 1996 local government cuts badly affected the Collective, and despite efforts to keep meeting in members' homes the AWWC finally folded in 1997.

Immediate source of acquisition

This collection is part of the The South Asian Diaspora Literature and Arts Archive (SALIDAA) which was founded in 1999. The aim was to preserve sources and information about the contribution of the South Asian community to literature and arts in Britain.

Scope and content

Administrative files, letters, manuscripts, video. Collection includes papers and correspondence from the named individuals below.

Chronological emphasis

1984 - 1997

System of arrangement

Numbered files and folders.

Access conditions

Available to researchers, by appointment only. Access to archive material is subject to the material being in a suitable state of preservation.

Copyright/conditions governing reproduction

Language of material

English.

AWWC collection level description

Physical characteristics

Mainly unbound sheets of paper: Letters, agendas, minutes, flyers, publicity material. One videocassette.

Finding aids

The books that are part of the AWWC archive may be found in the [Brunel University Library catalogue](#).

There is a finding aid for manuscript material.

Existence of copies

Archivist's note

Described by Paula Gerrard, edits and amendments by Katie Flanagan

Rules or conventions

Date(s) of description

19 February 2013

Indexing;

Subjects

Women's history
Creative writing
Associations, institutions, etc
Collectivism – History
Literature

Persons

Acharya, Shanta.
Ahmad, Rukhsana.
Akram, Abida.
Ali, Iftikhar.
Ashaf, Musserat.
Aslam, S.
Bales, Mitzi.
Bhambri, Khusum.
Billen, Stephanie.
Carney, Carol.
Chadha, Parminder.
Chauhan, Mary D.
Chowdhry, Maya.
Chudder, Perminder.
Dauncey, Guy.
Dhingra, Leena.
Duffy, John.
Dwyer, F.
Emecheta, Buckii.
Esat, Ruk.
Ganesh, Menaha.
Gata-Aura, Tarlochan.
Gill, Fahmeeda.
Grech, Joyoti.

AWWC collection level description

Gupta, Rahila.
Gupta, Tanika.
Hazumi, Fuitsu.
Heasman, Rohini.
Hemmings, Susan.
Holmstrom, Lakshmi.
Hussain, Emteaz.
Iyer, Meeta.
Jamdagni, Laxmi.
Jeet, Sharan.
Jena, Seema.
Johnson, Natalie.
Kaur, Daljit.
Kaur, Parmjit.
Khan, Shamshad.
Khawaja, Gulnar.
Kirkwood, Sally.
Kumar, Anu.
Levy, Deborah.
McDermott, Janet.
Mackay, Fiona.
McKenzie, Beverley.
Mahmood, Misbah.
Makkonen, Vanida.
Malik, Afshan. (also writes under the name Malik, Afshan N.)
Malik, Anjam.
Malik, Samia.
Manghta, Kamtesh.
Manuel, Preethi.
Marchionni, Paola.
Marshall, Jacinta.
Mayes, Ian.
Ming, Li.
Mookergee, F.
Mundair, Raman.
Naidoo, Helena.
Nair, Vijaya.
Namjoshi, Suniti, 1941-
Ndebele, Njabulo.
Ng, Siu Won.
Ogunsiji, Bunmi.
Pandya, Rekha.
Pieris, Paola.
Purī, Kailāsha Jī., 1926- (also referred to as Puri, Kailash.)
Quinn, Alison.
Ramamaurthy, Sita.
Randhawa, Ravinder (also referred to as Randhawa, Ravi.)
Rao, Rukmani.
Raphael, Aysa.
Reidy, Julie.
Rogers-Wright, Avril.

AWWC collection level description

Rushdie, Salman.
Saifuddin, Najma.
Saira, Kosar.
Sekhon, Amarjit K.
Sekhon, Perminder.
Seneviratne, Seni.
Sengupta, Alpana (also referred to as Sen-Gupta, Alpana.)
Sharma, D.W.
Sharna, Meenakshi.
Shields, Mike.
Sherma, Chand.
Sidhwa, Bapsi.
Singh, Savita.
Situnayake, Shirani.
Smartt, Dorothea.
Stephenson, Veena.
Taakat.
Tanna, Mira.
Thackar, Uma.
Thakor, Sue.
Tong, Joanna.
Watson, Daisy.
Watson, Jocelyn.
Woolf, Ian.
Yeh, Pamela.
Zahno, Kamila.

Corporate bodies

AASRAA; Asian Women's Refuge
Abraham Moss Centre Theatre
Actors Institute
AEMS; Magazine of the Arts Education for a Multicultural Society
African Asian Cultural Youth Expo
African, Caribbean & Asian Writers Conference
African Caribbean Attainment Project
Annual Youth Awareness Day
Apollo Business Systems Ltd
Artists' Agency (Great Britain)
Artrage
Arts Council of Great Britain
Arts Council of Great Britain. National Arts & Media Strategy Unit
Arts Education for a Multicultural Society
Arts Project Fund
Arvon Foundation
Asian Arts Council
Asian Co-operative Theatre
Asian Female Youth Project
Asian newsletter; Greenwich Asian Resource Centre
Asian Women Writers' Collective
Asian Women Writers Group
Asian Women Writers' Workshop

AWWC collection level description

Asian Women's Collective
Asian Women's Network.
Asian Women's Refuge
Association for the Teaching of Caribbean, African, Asian and Associated Literatures (ATCAL)
ATCAL; Association for the Teaching of Caribbean, African, Asian and Associated Literatures (ATCAL)
Battersea Arts Centre
Bazaar
BBC; see British Broadcasting Corporation
Bengali Women's Support Group; BWSP
BFI; British Film Institute
BHAN; Black HIV/AIDS Network
Birmingham Readers and Writers Festival
Black & Ethnic Childcare Working Group
Black Arts
Black Arts Development Fund
Black Arts Forum
Black Audio Film Collective
Black History Month
Black HIV/AIDS Network; BHAN
Black Ink
Black Resource Centre
Black Women's Network; BWN
Black Writers Association (London)
Blackburn Museum & Art Gallery (Blackburn, England)
Blackwoman Talk Publishers Ltd
Blackwomen in the Arts
Bread 'n Roses, Typesetting & Design
Brent Asian Women's Refuge
Bridport Arts Centre
British Broadcasting Corporation
British Broadcasting Corporation. BBC Radio
British Broadcasting Corporation. Television Service
British Film Institute; BFI
Brunel University
BWN; Black Women's Network
BWSP; Bengali Women's Support Group
Campaign Against Pornography; CAP
Campaign for Press and Broadcasting Freedom
CAP; Campaign Against Pornography
Carnegie School of Physical Education and Human Movement Studies; see Leeds Polytechnic.
Centre for Health and Gender Equity; CHANGE
Centre Space
CHANGE; Centre for Health and Gender Equity
Chittagong Hill Tracts Campaign
CILAF
CINDEX
City Limits
City of London Anti-Apartheid Group
CLAC; Community Language and Art Centre
Commonwealth Institute (Great Britain)
Commonword

AWWC collection level description

Community Language and Art Centre; CLAC
Co-operatives Research Unit; Open University
Copyart
Copy-rite
Covent Garden Community Centre
Creation for Liberation (Organization)
Creation for Liberation (Organization); Scotland
Crocus
Dalston City Challenge
Daskhat
Diaspora
Diva
Double Edge Theatre Company
Dragons Teeth
Eastern Arts Association (England)
Education and Community Relations
FAN; Feminist Arts News
Federation of Worker Writers & Community Publishers
Feminist Arts News; FAN
First Glance
Forward; (Foundation for Women's Health Research and Development)
Foundation for Women's Health Research and Development
Frankfurt Bookfair
Friends of ASSEFA
GLA'S Not; the clients mag that can't be cut (Greater London Arts)
GLC; see Greater London Council
Greater London Arts; GLA
Greater London Arts Association
Greater London Council; GLC
Greater London Council. Inner London Education Authority
Greenwich Asian Resource Centre
Groundings
Grove Stepping Stones; part of the London West Training Services
G.L.C.; see Greater London Council
Hackney Arts Forum; HAF
Hackney; Arts in Urban Regeneration
Hackney Gazette
HAF; Hackney Arts Forum
Half Moon Young People's Theatre
Hen House Club
Horizon Gallery
I.C.A.; see Institute of Contemporary Arts
Icarus
ICOM; the National Federation of Worker Co-operatives
Identity magazine
Imprint
Independent Radio Drama Productions; IRDP
Independent Theatre Council; ITC
Indian Bookworm's Journal
Inner London Education Authority
Institute of Contemporary Arts (London, England)

AWWC collection level description

IRDP; Independent Radio Drama Productions
Irie! dance theatre
ITC; Independent Theatre Council
Kala Pani
Kala Ujamaa
Kalayaan
Kings Head Theatre Club
Kyk-over-al
Lambeth (London, England). Directorate of Amenity Services
Lambeth CDA; Lambeth Co-operative Development Agency
Lambeth Co-op Centre
Lambeth Co-operative Development Agency; Lambeth CDA
Lambeth (London, England). Council
Language Issues
Lasso Co-operative
Leeds Polytechnic. Carnegie School of Physical Education and Human Movement Studies
Lewisham (London, England). Education
Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (Association) see Tamililā Viṭutalaippulika! (Association)
Literary Horizons
Lokmaya Press
London Arts Alliance
London Arts Board
London Arts Forum
London Borough Grants Committee
London Borough of Brent (England)
London Borough of Hounslow (England)
London Borough of Hounslow (England). Hounslow People's Arts Forum
London Borough of Lambeth (England)
London Borough of Lambeth (London, England). Amenity Services
London Borough of Newham (England)
London Borough of Newham (England). Newham (London, England). Leisure Services
London Borough of Newham (England).Newham (London, England). Women's Equality Unit
London Borough of Waltham Forest (England)
London Borough of Waltham Forest (England). Waltham Forest (London, England). Arts & Leisure
London Borough of Waltham Forest (England) Asian Family Resource Centre
London Borough of Waltham Forest (England) Black Women Support Group
London Borough of Waltham Forest (England) Black Women Workers
London Borough of Waltham Forest (England) Community and Further Education
London Borough of Waltham Forest (England). Waltham Forest (London, England). Education Dept.
London Borough of Waltham Forest (England) Ethnic Minority Youth Work Unit
London Borough of Waltham Forest (England) Girls & young womens unit
London Borough of Waltham Forest (England) Vestry House Museum
London Borough of Waltham Forest (England) Youth and Community Service
London Borough of Waltham Forest (England) Youth Service
London Guildhall University
London Radio Playwright's Festival '92
London Rape Crisis Centre
London West Training Services; see Grove Stepping Stones
London Women's Centre
London Women's mailing list
M6 Theatre Company

AWWC collection level description

MAAS; Minorities' Arts Advisory Service (Great Britain)
Maliya
Manchester Library & Information Service
Manchester University Press
Marketing Resource Centre
Matrix Architects Ltd
Mayfield Adult Education Centre
Merseyside Arts
Merseyside Arts. Women's Arts Research
Metropolitan Borough of Oldham
Microsystemer
Midland Art Centre
Minorities' Arts Advisory Service (Great Britain); MAAS
Mukti Collective
National Black Arts Networking Project
National Childcare Campaign (Great Britain)
National Federation of Women's Institutes
National Federation of Worker Co-operatives; ICOM
National Lottery Charities Board (Great Britain)
National Westminster Bank PLC
NELB; North East London Boroughs
New Horizon, the Muslim World Review
New Playwrights Trust
Newham (London, England). Council
North East London Boroughs; NELB
Open Dialogue
Open University
OUP; see Oxford University Press
Outwrite
Oval House Theatre
Oval Printshop
Oxford University Press
Panafest (Organization)
Penguin Books, Ltd. (Harmondsworth, Middlesex)
Platform Europe Scheme
Poetry Library
Ppartnerships
Professional Presentations
Projects UK
Project 1992
Rape Counselling and Research Project; RCRP
RCRP; Rape Counselling and Research Project
Registry of Friendly Societies (Great Britain)
St Matthews Meeting Place
SALIDAA; see South Asian Diaspora Literature and Arts Archive
Sanctuary
Seattle Women's Caucus for Art
Shed 22 Community Print & Resource Centre
Sisterwrite
South Asian Diaspora Literature and Arts Archive; SALIDAA
Southall Arts

AWWC collection level description

Southall Black Sisters (Group)
Southall Black Women's Centre
Spare Rib
Spring Grove Centre
Surrey Hall
Tabularasa
Talawa (Theatre Company)
Tamilīla Viṭutalaippulika! (Association) – (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (Association))
Theatre Workshop, Theatre in Education Project
Third World Publications
Tigress Press
Time Out Magazine Ltd.
Tom Allen Community Arts Centre
Tottenham Writers
Unesco; see also United Nations Preparatory Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Commission
Union Place Community Resource Centre Ltd
United Nations Preparatory Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Commission
University of London Extra Mural Department
University of London. Institute of Education
Virago Press
Waltham Forest Health Authority
Waltham Forest HIV / AIDS team and health promotion unit
Waltham Forest Women's Centre
Waltham Forest Women's Unity
Wasafiri
Wesley House
Who Cares? Trust
Women against Fundamentalism (Organization)
Women and Girls Network Telephone Counselling Line
Women in Arts
Women in Arts Administration
Women in Entertainment
Women in Music
Women's Arts Research, Merseyside Arts
Women's Caucus for Art
Women's Front of Liberation Tigers
Women's Press
Women's Sports Foundation (Great Britain)
Words, Sounds and Power
Words Worth Books
Working Press
World Book Fair
Writers News
Yorkshire & Humberside Arts
Young People Now
Zed books