Literacy

Literacy has a broad definition within the FWWCP archive, which is a direct reflection of its mission and members. Beginning in the 1970s, it is clear that each writing group strived to meet the individual needs of its members, whether by providing materials and resources in support of formal literacy or by embracing an alternative, living definition of literacy.

The following sample of texts from the FWWCP archive includes reference materials such as guides to basic reading and writing skills, as well as directories for local establishments that supported community beliefs in the realm of reading and writing.

Further, these texts demonstrate the FWWCP legacy of addressing member wants and needs, including collaborative writing, storytelling projects, publishing, and reading that reinforced member driven definitions of literacy.
Get it right!: A Pocket Guide to Written English
Michael Temple, 1978
FWWCP/08 L 07

A guidebook for the intermediate adult learner, including sections on spelling, punctuation, and useful terms in the English language. This pocket-sized reference book provides its user with concise explanations of how to employ basic grammar, along with a small dictionary of frequently used words. With just 58 pages, the text quickly aids its users in addressing common grammatical errors, and ends with tips on writing essays and note-taking.

**Keywords:** composition | dictionary | literacy | note-taking | writing

Centerprise Literature: Developing writers for the future
Centerprise Trust Ltd., 2006
FWWCP/08 L 03

This catalogue describes Centerprise Literature’s “Developing Writers for the Future” courses: Creating Writing Courses, Writing Groups, and Professional Development. Descriptions include a summary of course objectives and a brief introduction of the instructor. Lastly, dates, meeting times and places, and the course fee are provided. The final portion of the catalogue is contact information for the Centerprise Literature Project, CLR James Library, The Resource Centre, and the Islington Central Library.

**Keywords:** course catalogue | creative writing | professional development

New readers start here
Margaret Redfern, editor, 1975
FWWCP/08 L 11

The text is an annotated bibliography of books and other learning materials such as phonic card games that aid beginner to intermediate adult learners in developing and practising literacy skills. This text can be used to locate materials related to teachers, librarians, tutors related to adult literacy. The descriptions are unique in that they also provide warnings for texts that may not work in some way or another for different types of learners or personalities.

**Keywords:** adult learner | career guidance | literacy | remedial
The Radical Bookseller: Stop the Nazis
The Radical Bookseller, 1992
FWWCP/08 L 08

The Radical Bookseller supports left-wing communities, seeking to provide followers with information and writings that will encourage the development of community. This newsletter directory presents letters to the editor, current news or events, and a books of the month list. This newsletter also provides its readers with contact information for various establishments that provide services that align with left-wing communities.

Keywords: community | current event | directory | newsletter | radical

The radical bookseller directory
The Radical Bookseller, 1992
FWWCP/08 L 07

A directory to guide users to hundreds of bookshops, publishers, and periodicals that traditionally support the left-wing community. The bookshops are organised geographically along with contact information such as addresses, phone numbers, and hours of operation, and include brief descriptions of subject matters. The publishers are similarly listed in combination with radical distributors in the United Kingdom. Periodicals are listed according to subject along with details such as price and subscription rates.

Keywords: bookshop | directory | periodical | publisher | radical

Nibbles: a cookbook of ideas for writers
Larry Butler, et al., no date
FWWCP/10 S 02

A cleverly written guide to the multifaceted processes of writing broken down into four sections: Starters, Writing Recipes, Chef’s Specialties, and Other Ingredients. The Starters section, among other things, includes tips for planning workshops, games to break the ice, and writing exercises. The Writing Recipes section provides guidance on the techniques of writing poetry and developing a robust story. The Chef’s Specialities section is compiled of eleven authors’ tips on writing a novel, song, or poem. Tasty.

Keywords: how-to | story development | writing workshop
Rising in the East
Multiple authors, 1992
FWWCP/08 L 11

This book was the culminating project of the fourth summer school for improving English language skills at the Darnley Street Family Centre. For two weeks, ethnic minority women are provided a space with childcare to develop and practice their English reading and writing skills. Overcoming their inhibitions with the language, twenty-one women contributed short stories and poems in order to share insights into their experiences as women, mothers, wives, and immigrants.

Keywords: course | language development | literacy | skill

Where do we go from here? Adult lives without literacy
The Gatehouse Project, 1983
FWWCP/ RM 01

This book presents the experiences of eleven adults navigating language learning. Some narratives have been transcribed from interviews, and others have been written by the individual after acquiring literacy skills. Many of the stories begin in primary school as early sites of judgement and criticism, which, in turn, prompt defensive attitudes toward literacy. Further, storytellers also share their frustrations with navigating the job market with little to no literacy skills.

Keywords: adult literacy | reading | self-confidence | writing

Women Sharing Experiences
Darnley Street Family Centre, no date
FWWCP/10 S 02

Eastside Books, formerly Tower Hamlets Arts Project, is an arts education organisation that offers a range of community literacy education services. This book follows from a 1990s poetry award programme for children from the ages of six to sixteen. This book represents ninety hundred entries. These poems bring to life London’s East End through the words of the children living there.

Keywords: early literacy | poetry | self-confidence | agency
This text transcends a traditional how-to guide, particularly related to the navigation of complexities of being a creative writer and also the desire of being published. This book is broken down into a series of concerns related to the creative writing process, including research and community. The text acknowledges the tension between intimidation and the development of self-confidence through writing and publishing.

**Keywords:** adult education | adult literacy | publishing | self-guidance