



WALES BRANCH

A report on recent activities from Branch Chair, Felicity Fletcher:-

The Annual Mena Williams Lecture was held at the Temple of Peace in Cardiff on Thursday, 14th May. The lecture entitled 'Finding a Voice and an Audience: Asian-British Women and Cinema' was given by Dr Anthea Symmonds. She focused on a series of successful Asian-British films of the past two decades, which not only portrayed a very different view of Asian women than constructed by British cinema in the past, but were also directed by women.

UNIFEM in Wales had an information stand at a one day International Women's Day Conference held in the City Hall in Cardiff. The event was organised by the Wales Women's National Coalition (WWNC), involving a variety of organisations and charities and included workshops, discussions and a talk by the Western Mail Welsh Women of the Year, Professor Judith Hall.

Following information from WWNC that suggested that Wales is to opt out of the UK Strategy in relation to Violence Against Women, UNIFEM in Wales lobbied both the Secretary of State for Wales at Westminster and the Equalities Minister at the Welsh Assembly Government. Letters were written by the Chair of UNIFEM in Wales and other members - both on the committee and in the wider membership. The Branch intends to monitor the situation and seek further clarification from the Assembly Government Minister for Social Justice and Local Government.

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