

A History of Women in 100 Objects by Maggie Andrews and Janis Lomas

5 stars

An innovative and fascinating approach to history

Both authors are academic historians with impressive credentials who are well placed to write about women in history.

Previously, apart from a few well-known individuals - Joan of Arc, Emily Pankhurst, Dame Mary Banks, Queen Elizabeth 1 etc - women have played a supporting role to men's exploits. They are portrayed as the homemakers, courtesans and wives and mothers, the background to men's glorious deeds.

This book is entirely about women and how their lives have been defined by a wide range of objects, from the Scold's Bridle, to Contraception, the Barclaycard and Barbara Castle's diaries. Some have been controlling, whilst others have liberated and enabled women to the 'equality' we enjoy today (ironic!).

Probably a book to dip into rather than to devour at a single sitting, but altogether engaging, enthralling and an easy read.

A must for those interested in women and their issues and evolution.

*Pashtpaws*

Breakaway Reviewers received a copy of the book to review.