



Video transcript

Women and the Stationers' Company: a history

The Worshipful Company of Stationers has historically been a largely male-led organisation, but the archives can give us an intriguing glimpse into the women who have always worked in the London book trades.

Our online exhibition begins in the sixteenth century, featuring an array of book trade icons, including Elizabeth Mallet, publisher of the first daily newspaper in England, who signed her name with a mark.

Elizabeth Cox, whose medical labelling business protected her community from accidental poisoning.

Susan Bailey and her daughters, the women behind some of the earliest children's pop-up books, and Betty Ross, reporter in petty coats, who innovated with radio journalism.

Explore our website to learn more about these women and more from the sixteenth century to the twentieth century when we appointed our first female master.