

## Our time at Madeley Young Women's Writing and Designing Group – By Carola Adams

Presenters: Tracy Bladen and Diane Baldi

Tracy Bladen and Diane Baldi were young women back in the late 1970's and early 80's. Once a week they came together with a small number of other young women in Telford to explore their experiences as young women and to produce a local girls only magazine, posters, spoof adverts and cards. There were very few girls groups in the country at the time and those that existed were believed to threaten the very fabric of mainstream youth work, and those that worked within it. The presentation at the 8<sup>th</sup> Sept 2009 conference will give a snapshot of those times, some benefits on being part of one of the first 'girls work groups' and how it influenced them

Tracy Bladen and Diane Baldi have continued to assert their views by such community action as campaigning for reduced speed limit outside their local primary school and by working to set up a community mothers and toddlers group.