

# MODERN RECORDS CENTRE INFORMATION BULLETIN

No. 82

June 2007

ISSN 0309-0418

---

## **Storage update**

The Centre is now starting to prepare for the refurbishment of the ground floor strong room which will take place next year. This will be a major undertaking requiring all the records currently held in the room (c.6 kms of material) to be removed to an external store while the old mobile shelving is dismantled and replaced with new electronic mobile shelving. We will gain between 25 - 30% more capacity with the new shelving which will enable us to continue to collect well into the future. We have been helped in the preparation for this by a small group of students in the WUAP (Warwick University Assisted Places) scheme. They have been re-labelling the boxes and loose material shelf by shelf so that the boxes can be turned around once they are returned to the new shelving. This is a tedious and time consuming task and our thanks go to all the students involved for their help with this work.

A large quantity of the Library's statistics collection has recently been moved from the upper strongroom to an external store in Leamington Spa. These can still be retrieved through the main Library. The move has provided us with nearly one kilometre of additional space and enabled us to reunite the scattered Transport & General Workers Union archive and relocate several other smaller collections.

## **Exhibitions**

In early May the Centre hosted an interesting exhibition put together by students of the History Department based on an oral history project. The students conducted interviews around a number of themes such as leisure, politics, women's lives and race relations. The exhibition was launched with an evening reception to which many of the interviewees were invited and which proved a very enjoyable occasion.

The MRC also participated alongside the Library in two staff induction sessions. The latter of these was aimed at research staff and Martin Sanders was subsequently able to demonstrate possible relevant sources to enquirers on the new archive database.

Work has begun on systematically updating the family history pages on the Centre's website. These will in time provide detailed information on all genealogical sources held by the Centre.

## **Equal Pay**

The Centre is currently negotiating over the acquisition of several collections relating to the Equal Pay campaigns of the 1970s and 1980s. We are hoping to acquire the papers of some of the people involved in the campaigns as well as academic researchers who have collected their papers on this topic.

The Centre hopes to host an event based on the collections in November and linked to the Advisory Board meeting. The TUC is also producing a film about Equal Pay based on archive material and we hope to be able to show the film as part of this event.

## **University Archives**

There have been several enquiries for the University Archives in recent months, including a request for information on Cryfield Grange Farm for the new Vice-Chancellor and research for items to use on exhibition boards for reunions, including the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary reunion for the 1966 intake.

Items from the University Archive were also used recently in the exhibition for the oral history project (see above).

## **Cataloguing and Access**

Since February the Centre has continued adding material into the CALM database. We now have over 50,000 records in the system and we are hoping that we can make the database available for internet use early in 2008. This is sooner than anticipated and of course the database will not be complete, but it will enable easy searching across nearly 300 collections and records will continue to be added all the time

Among the archives recently added to the CALM database are:

- The archives of the postal workers' unions including the Union of Communication Workers (UCW), the National Federation of Postal and Telegraph Clerks, the Post Office Engineering Union and the Fawcett Association.

- Some of the predecessors to the British Association of Social Workers such as the records of the Association of Child Care Officers,

the Association of Children's Officers and the Institute of Medical Social Workers.

- The archives of the Headmasters' Association, the Headmasters' Conference and the Joint University Council (JUC).

- The papers of UCATT, the Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians (formerly the Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers, Painters and Builders). These include the Amalgamated Society of House Decorators, the Manchester Unity of Operative Bricklayers' Society, United Operative Masons' and Granite Cutters' Union and the Amalgamated Slaters' Tilers' and Roofing Operatives' Society.

- The records relating to the demonstration at Red Lion Square in 1974 and the subsequent public enquiry have also been added.

- Several individuals' papers are now on CALM including those of Sir Jack Scamp, the industrial relations trouble-shooter. Work is currently underway on the papers of Clive Jenkins, former General Secretary of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs (ASTMS).

Among the series of pamphlets and publications on the new database are the collections of the CBI and the International Transport Workers Federation as well as those of CND and Amnesty International.

Work has also started on the internet access and search facility for CALM.

## **TGWU**

Cataloguing is now well underway on the files of the Transport and General Workers' Union Research Department. This department maintained files on every industry and trade in which the TGWU had membership and is an excellent resource for information on wages and conditions in a wide variety of fields from the First World War to the 1970s.

Please note that it is necessary to obtain permission from the Transport and General Workers' Union before consulting unpublished material.

## **National Cycle Archive**

Additional material received this spring from the Cyclists' Touring Club has now been box listed. David Lambourn, a CTC volunteer, continues to sort through a large collection of material deposited by the National Cycle Museum. We are very grateful for his help.

## **New deposits**

The following deposits have been made since February 2007. A complete list will be included in the Centre's Annual Report.

- Papers of Tom Litterick, Labour MP for Birmingham Selly Oak. Correspondence, Parliamentary papers and publications. (Acc. 585)
- Amalgamated Society of Woodcutting Machinists. File containing printed agreements, mostly for other unions. 1940-50s (Acc 586)
- Community and Youth Workers' Union. 30 boxes. Minutes, correspondence, reports. (Acc 587)
- International Socialists. Additional papers deposited by Nick Howard including minutes and newsletters. 1966-1972 (Acc 588)
- National Union of Printing Bookbinding and Paperworkers, Dartford branch minute book. 1927-1945 (Acc 589)
- Rubery Owen - additional records. Over 200 box files of correspondence and papers of Sir Alfred Owen and David Owen. 1960-1970 (Acc 590)
- National Association for Pastoral Care in Education. Six boxes of correspondence and administrative papers. (Acc 591)

---

For further information about the Centre, its holdings and publications, contact Helen Ford, Modern Records Centre, University Library, University of Warwick, Coventry, CV4 7AL; Telephone +44 (0)24 7652 4219; Fax. +44 (0)24 7652 4211; email: [archives@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:archives@warwick.ac.uk)  
URL <<http://modernrecords.warwick.ac.uk>>