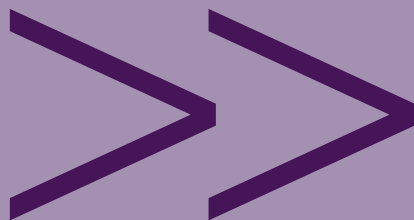


Welcome to the new look Modern Records Centre!



Annual Report
2010-2011

*Front cover: Postcard issued by the National
Council of Labour in 1936 to raise funds
for aid to the Spanish.
Reference number: MSS.292/946/18b/76(i)*



Annual Report 2010-2011

Welcome to the new look Modern Records Centre!

The redesign and refurbishment of the public areas of the Centre have been the main event of this academic year. The new layout provides a far more flexible space for researchers and staff. The Centre now has an improved exhibition space, a brighter and more welcoming research space, and crucially a space for teaching and group work. Details of the changes and more photographs follow in this report.

The other major development this year has been the digitization of the TUC files on the Spanish Civil War. Two temporary staff, Daniel Cant and Laura Rattigan, joined us in March 2011 and began the task of preparing and scanning the files. They rapidly adapted to the large scanner and the intricacies of metadata. More information on this project is given in the report.

Finally, a survey of audio-visual materials conducted in 2009-10 resulted in a project to begin digitizing some of the audio tapes and videos. These underused and valuable resources will gradually be converted to digital formats so that researchers can access interviews and visual material more easily and extracts and clips can be made available on the website.

Read on for details of other activities, projects, cataloguing achievements and exhibitions.



The new MRC

Packing up the public searchroom and staff workroom at the end of 2010 and relocating to the 2nd floor of the main Library, we all wondered what was going to happen to the old MRC for the next 5 months. The builders moved into the Centre in January 2011 and began to demolish the internal walls. Very quickly a new layout began to appear and large glass panels arrived to open up the internal spaces.

A new and more visible entrance is the first substantial change for visitors, alongside a new reception point and searchroom area. There is now a separate exhibition space and a room for teaching groups. The whole layout has flexibility as two of the internal walls can be moved and the spaces opened up to provide one large area for workshops or small conferences, or partially opened up for larger group work and events. We have also gained a small meeting room and storage space.

The staff areas are lighter and brighter and have provided enough additional space for a designated digitization area.

While the building work took place, the Centre relocated its public service to the main Library. A small area was set aside for archive users and a restricted service provided between January and May. With limited seating and a longer route to the strongrooms, access to material was at specific times of the day and limited in quantity for each researcher.

However, we continued to teach student groups and provide induction sessions throughout the period of relocation.



The old and new Searchrooms



In May we finally moved back into the improved space and welcomed researchers to the new facilities. Grateful thanks go to the Wolfson Foundation, the 29th May 1961 Charitable Trust, the TUC, the Barry Amiel and Norman Melburn Trust, the Rubery Owen Group Charitable Trust and all the trade unions, companies and individuals who contributed to the fund-raising campaign.

To celebrate the new facilities and re-opening of the Centre, an afternoon tea was held at the House of Lords in June. Professor Sir George Bain, one of the founders of the Centre in 1973 gave the key speech acknowledging the past and present achievements of the MRC. Current and former members of the Advisory Board, former archivists and a number of trade union leaders attended.



The new teaching space



*Professor
Sir George Bain*

Spanish Civil War project.

Starting in March and still in our temporary accommodation, we embarked on a major project to digitize the internationally significant archives relating to the Spanish Civil War. This project was designed to test the workflow, time and cost involved in large scale digitization, but it soon took on a life of its own.

45 files were selected from the TUC archives, containing correspondence, minutes, reports, memoranda and propaganda material produced by members of the British and Spanish governments; political groups; international, British and Spanish trade unions; pressure groups, aid organisations, and other interested parties.

The project will result in over 10,000 pages of archive material being made available online free of charge. Transcriptions will be available for every item, allowing researchers to search through the mass of material for key words, names or phrases. The project will continue into the new academic year and will be launched online in spring 2012.

Daniel Cant and Laura Rattigan have numbered, scanned and processed all the documents from the archive files as well as producing detailed spreadsheets of metadata – information about the documents, and technical data on the digital image and text files. The project has been managed by Liz Wood, who has also taken on the task of documenting the copyright requirements of the project. A more detailed explanation of the project and what it involves can be seen on the website: <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/library/mrc/news/scw/>



Exhibitions and Talks

Staff were involved in a large number of student induction sessions during the year. Classes for 2010 - 2011 were held in the main Library building and continued throughout the period of building work. A total of 23 sessions (over 30 hours) were held for 446 undergraduate, Masters and PhD students. They included the annual 'Historical Research: Theory, Skills and Method', 'Sociology Field Studies' and 'Visual Sociology' as well as a number of new sessions on 'History of Germany', 'Researching Society and Culture', 'Developing South Asia: From Colonialism to Globalization' and for MA students from the Warwick Business School – 'Management and Organisational Analysis' and 'Industrial Relations'.

As well as digital presentations on archives as sources of information and how to use them, these classes involve the selection of original physical materials for the students to handle and use.

“Seeing primary source documents – untouched – the real thing – makes history more believable”

2nd year Sociology student.



Science and Technology in the MRC?

An exhibition 'Pioneers: innovators in science and technology' was put together in autumn 2010 which promoted some of the unrecognized scientific and technical resources held by the Centre. It included papers of Sir Frank Boyd Dunlop and Sir Frank Whittle. The exhibition can still be seen online.



Continuing the scientific theme, among the collections catalogued was the World

Federation of Scientific Workers, founded in July 1946. It has enjoyed the active participation of a number of eminent scientists. "It aims to deal with all issues involving the social responsibility of scientific workers (laboratory researchers, academics in both the natural and human sciences, as well as engineers)". Issues covered include: science and society, science policy, disarmament, science and ethics, and scientific law. The collection includes a wide range of material relating to the administration, policy and campaigns of the WFSW, including archives regarding opposition to the Vietnam War, atomic and chemical weapons, and nuclear power. It includes a copy of a telegram from the Mongolian Committee of Sciences, photographs of the *Torrey Canyon* clean-up, in 1967 and a joint statement in 1975 by the WFTU and WFSW on ecological problems 'The earth must not become a desert'.

Other science and technology collections listed during the year were The British Electrotechnical and Allied Manufacturers' Association (BEAMA), including its journal, 1915-1962, and items from its reference library, including advertising leaflets for electrical appliances and applications, [1940s-1950s].

The archives of the Society of Radiographers were also completed in autumn 2010. The SoR was founded at the instigation of radiologists Albert Forder, and Dr Robert Knox. Membership was open to applicants who had been actively and continually employed for not less than ten years in the electro-therapeutic department or the X-ray department of a hospital or institution approved by the Council. There were 67 members in 1921, which rose to 164 by 1923. The archive contains a number of items on the early use of X rays for medical benefit.

Other Exhibitions

Another exhibition produced was 'Performing the Self: Women's Lives in Historical Perspective', put together for the 19th Annual Conference of the Women's History Network at the University of Warwick, September 2010. The conference exhibition illustrated the multi-textual ways that women's private and public identities have been represented, discovered and performed through work, travel and political activism respectively.

To celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Cradley Heath chainmakers strike, an exhibition "Rouse, Ye Women" was put together in August 2010. The strike lasted 10 weeks and attracted immense popular support from all sections of society. The founder of the National Federation of Women Workers, Mary Macarthur, used mass meetings and the media - including the new



medium of cinema - to bring the situation of the striking women to a wider audience and the strike became an international cause célèbre. All of these exhibitions can be seen on our website: <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/library/mrc/explorefurther/images/>

The Centre hosted the AGM of the Dugdale Society in October 2010, and our first external meeting in the new premises in early June – the regional AGM of the Archives and Records Association.

The new meeting space should enable more local societies and community groups to make use of the facility and plans are in place to invite a range of external visitors to the Centre.



Online resource

Four new online Warwick module resources for 2010/11 were added. 'History of Germany', 'Gender, History and Politics', 'Stalinism in Europe' and 'Visual Sociology'. The History of Germany module was well received and led to a series of seminars based around the resources. The selected items for seminars were expanded and added to the online module pages. Students were encouraged to visit the Centre and use the originals.

The tutor for the Stalinism module commented: "This is incredibly interesting material. I had fun reading it and the students will certainly profit enormously from these primary sources"

(Christoph Mick, History Dept)

"The documents are great, and I'll definitely incorporate them into my lectures".

Mia Lee, History Dept.

”



Collections and Catalogues

Work has continued on the main deposit of the National Union of Teachers (MSS.179). This vast collection encompasses a huge variety of material on all aspects of education history from the NUT Investigation into School Discipline and Behaviour in Secondary Modern Schools, 1954 – 1956, to papers on the abolition of the Inner London Education Authority. Work on the 2006 deposit is about to begin. This mainly covers the 1970s and 1980s and also contains further material relating to the Council for Educational Advance and substantial coverage of various union campaigns in the period.

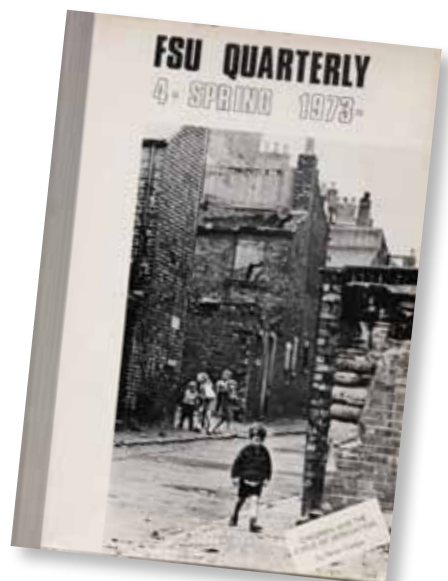
Another key education collection expanded this year was the archive of the Association of University Teachers. The Warwick University local association material was added to the earlier catalogue and an additional deposit of national papers was received in August 2010, consisting of early minutes, journals, circulars and General Secretary's papers from 1919 onwards. These were added by Lara Nelson, one of our regular volunteers.

The huge task of updating the TUC collections was also started during the year. The fifth deposit (MSS.292/E) largely unavailable until recently, covers the period 1970-1990 and supplements the fourth deposit (MSS.292/E). More than 2,000 additional records have been added so far but this task will continue for the foreseeable future.

Another large task tackled during the year was the transfer of the authority files from our old databases into our Calm database, along with the addition of new ones. These files provide the 'authoritative' descriptions of the many thousands of organisations and individuals mentioned in our catalogues.

Among the smaller collections made available online were:

- » The papers of Monty Hughes, Iron and Steel Trades Confederation official at Shotton steelworks: mainly papers relating to the campaign to keep the works open and to activity after its closure, 1970s-1980s.
- » Family Service Units archives. FSU formally came together in 1948 with the primary aim of helping families in difficulty in the aftermath of the war, particularly those affected by evacuation. Its concern was to promote the welfare of families and communities and the agency is identified with a specific method of working focused on 'casework' with individuals and families. This collection includes personal recollections of work in FSU units, journals, annual reports and local and regional papers from the 1960's onwards.
- » National Union of General and Municipal Workers collection 1919-1986 was listed in detail by Lizzie Morrison as part of her archive training course.



Volunteers

Once again we have been very fortunate to have the help of several willing and generous volunteers.

Carolyn Ewing completed the box list of the papers of Bob Willis, adding the files to the database and enabling the collection to be searched more easily. She also produced lists of cycle catalogues for the National Cycle Archive and participated in the digitization programmes, scanning several volumes of the railway union membership registers.

Lara Nelson joined us in November 2010 and provided a great deal of help in sorting and listing the archives of the AUT (see above). Lara has secured a temporary post elsewhere and hopes to get a place on an archives course in October 2012.

Miriam Hay continued working on the index to the first membership register of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants and contributed to work on the Gollancz production books.

Julie Moores completed lists for several industrial organizations such as the Engineering Construction Industry Association (ECIA). Julie was appointed to a full time post at Warwickshire County Record Office during the year and is therefore no longer able to volunteer with the MRC. We are very grateful for all her hard work in previous years.

Finally, Harriet Aldrich came to us for one week on a work placement. She sorted and listed the small collection of Association of Tuberculosis Care Workers archives and helped with a wide range of practical tasks.

While we were temporarily re-housed in the main Library and boxes were more difficult to access, the opportunity was taken to enhance lists already in the database. More detailed descriptions of files were added to a few collections including:

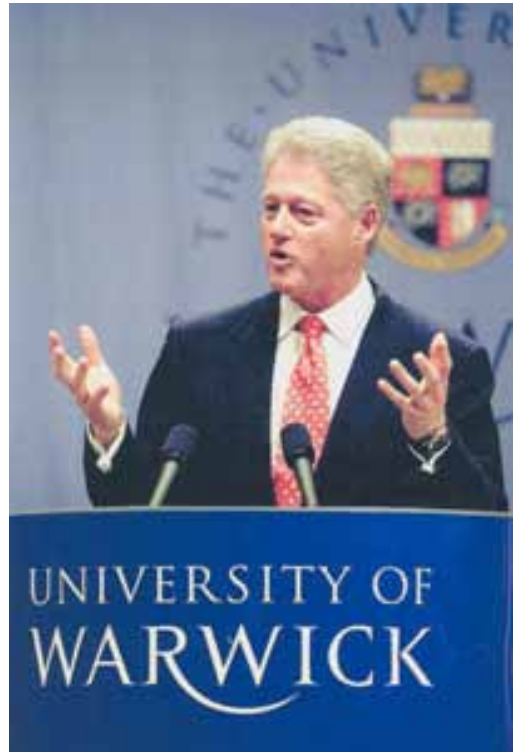
- » Descriptions of individual letters in the correspondence of Ernest Bevin, 1924-1940, and Frank Cousins, 1953-1981.
- » Listing of the literary works appearing in the production books of Victor Gollancz Limited, publishers, 1928-1964.



Audio-Visual Digitization

Using the information obtained from the audit of the Centre's audio-visual holdings mentioned in the last annual report, 78 audio cassettes and 21 VHS video cassettes were digitized. This was the first part of what we hope will be a continuing programme to promote the preservation of such recordings and to enhance access to them.

The sound recordings include: interviews conducted by Professor Logie Barrow with the veteran Trotskyist, Harry Wicks, in which, among other things, he recalled his experiences of the General Strike and the International Lenin School in Russia between 1927 and 1930; interviews with former and current trade union activists conducted on behalf of the Confederation of Health Service Employees by Professor Mick Carpenter of the sociology department at Warwick; national conferences of the Confederation of British Industry, 1989-1991, including speeches by Douglas Hurd (now Lord Hurd) and Dr David Bellamy. Among the video recordings are various campaign and information programmes produced by the Union of Communication Workers, a record of the visit to Warwick by Tony Blair and Bill Clinton in 2000, a cartoon about the exploitation of seafarers commissioned by the International Transport Workers' Federation, and a lively lecture by the Trotskyist writer and activist Tony Cliff.



University Archive 2010-2011



This year has seen the continuation of the transfer of all University Archive catalogues onto the Calm database (there are now 10,346 items accessible) as well as extensive work to sort and identify all photographs in the archive's collection.

Material deposited, included:

- » Agendas, minutes and papers of the International Committee for 11th October 2006 – 10th June 2009,
- » Papers of the Academic Resourcing Committee,
- » Lord Rootes Reports for 2009-2010,
- » Papers relating to a former pupil of the Emergency Teacher Training College (which originally stood where Westwood campus is today),

- » A range of folders, photographs, slides and research documents from the archaeology section of the Centre for Lifelong Learning, including the recollections of life spent working the farmland which was eventually transformed into Warwick's main campus written by David and Reg Clayton.

There were 48 enquiries relating to the University Archive, resulting in the production of 822 items. These have included enquiries about the history of the Arts Centre, papers presented at conferences held on campus, The Data Protection Act of 1984 and its implications, One World Week, photographs of campus and the Iron Age past of the Westwood site.

2010/2011 Statistics Summary

Reader numbers and visits are significantly lower than in previous years due mainly to the restricted service offered between January and May 2011.

644 visits were made by 305 readers. Warwick students or staff accounted for 141 visits and external academics and other users accounted for **503** visits. Fewer documents were produced, **26,294** [32,360] but photocopies increased to **5,407** [2,682]. 86 visitors took digital photographs.

The number of remote enquiries made by telephone, email or letter increased to **1,185** [1,116] and visits to the website also continue to grow: **294,147** [275,668]

All figures are given below with last year's figures in brackets.

Archives

Reader visits: archives: **644** [1064]

Warwick readers: **141** [399]; External: **503** [665]

Reader visits: Theses/Special Collections: **491** [599]

Total visits: **1135** [1663]. Evening usage: **198** [292]

Readers: **305** [395]

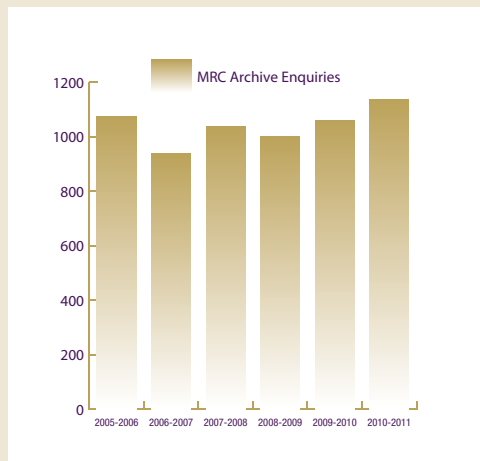
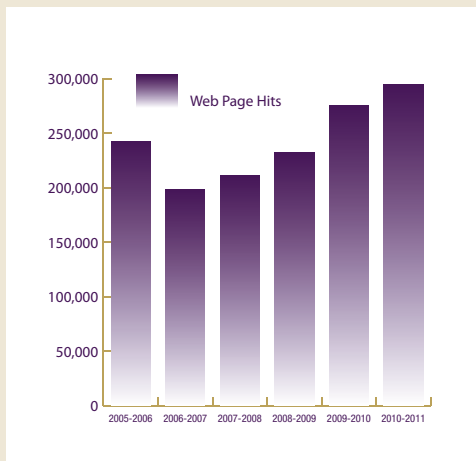
Warwick: **71** [125]; External: **234** [270]

Documents produced: **26,294** [32,360]; Theses produced: **803** [1,233]

Web visits: **294,147** [275,668] Photocopies: **5,407** [2,682]

Enquiries: **1,185** [1,116]

Warwick student inductions: **23** sessions. **446** students.



Accessions 2010-2011

There were 60 deposits during the year.

Acc No.	Title	Deposit Date
744	Transport and General Workers' Union: 16mm film reels	03/08/2010
745	UK Fashion & Textile Association Ltd	17/08/2010
746	Glass slides of William "Billy" Hill, cyclist.	17/08/2010
747	NALGO. Middlesex Polytechnic branch and national papers	19/08/2010
748	Family Service Units	27/08/2010
749	Additional Association of University Teachers (AUT) and NATFHE deposit	27/08/2010
750	William Stage, cyclist (b. 1869): document photocopies and extracts compiled by Kathleen Hodkinson	16/09/2010
751	Red International of Labour Unions (Profintern) magazine	24/09/2010
752	Account of the National Union of Printing, Bookbinding and Paper Workers, by David Walters	23/09/2010
753	Papers of A.W.Smith railway employee	30/09/2010
754	Additional papers of Richard A Wood	30/09/2010
755	Steel Industry Management Association (SIMA)	30/09/2010
756	Papers of William Driscoll and the Economic League	01/10/2010
757	Patterson Portfolio No.2 (National Cycle Archive)	14/10/2010
758	Anarchist magazines	09/11/2010
759	Coventry Climax Engines Ltd: Statement of terms of employment	08/11/2010
760	Reminiscences of Tony Hitchins re motor industry	28/10/2010
761	British Universities Industrial Relations Association (BUIRA) additional	12/11/2010
762	File re National Union of Teachers strike in Barking	03/11/2010
763	TGWU membership cards of T White	10/11/2010
764	Cycling Diaries of David Allan Hamilton (1905-2001)	26/11/2010
765	Lincoln Wheelers Cycling Club	09/12/2010
766	CBI additional material	10/12/2010
767	Commercial Vehicle and Road Transport Club (CVRTC)	21/12/2010

Acc No.	Title	Deposit Date
768	National Union of Teachers: Annual Report	10/12/2010
769	NALGO publications	10/01/2011
770	Union members' material: WR Gregory and RW Gregory	12/01/2011
771	Radical newspapers/magazines.	11/01/2011
772	Album presented to James Salmon in recognition of his service as secretary of the Railway Officers' and Servants' Association.	13/01/2011
773	National Union of Basket, Cane, Wicker and Fibre Furniture Makers of Great Britain and Ireland: minutes of general and other meetings	24/01/2011
774	London Unison election papers and misc. campaigning papers. Deposited alongside London Cycling campaign material. Ilford South Labour party guide to press coverage (closed).	27/01/2011
775	Northumberland District Association CTC	28/01/2011
776	Burroughs Wellcome & Company Printing Department: General Strike material	08/02/2011
777	Life of Michael Faraday published by BEAMA, 1931; 'British electrical manufacturing' reprinted article from <i>Engineering</i> by F H Masters, the donor's father, 1950; 'Public transport' information sheet issued by BEAMA, 1951 and 1953; <i>Electrical industries</i> golden jubilee issue, 1951	04/03/2010
778	Papers of G. Revell, Home Office Children's Dept inspector and Notts Education Dept.	04/03/2011
779	Social Workers' Benevolent Trust (SWBT)	20/01/2011
780	Papers relating to Victor Gollancz publishers.	07/03/2011
781	Richard Aldrich's papers on intelligence and the Cold War	12/03/2011
782	Committee for Vice Chancellors and Principals of the Universities of the United Kingdom. Additional papers	04/04/2011
783	Unison videos	27/04/2011
784	Additional file of papers from Sir George Bain on the union growth project.	05/05/2011
785	Additional papers of BEC (National Confederation of Employers' Organisations)	09/05/2011

Acc No.	Title	Deposit Date
786	Records of the 'Special Interest Group on Ageing' of the British Association of Social Workers	18/05/2011
787	Transport and General Workers' Union: Additional Material	20/05/2011
788	Papers of Tony Hitchens: Additional Papers	23/05/2011
789	<i>B.R.C. roads - a photographic record of the use of reinforced concrete in modern road construction</i> , the British Reinforced Concrete Engineering Co Ltd	23/05/2011
790	World University Service (WUS). Additional material.	26/05/2011
791	Workers Vanguard	26/05/2011
792	Video recordings of UNISON national conferences	06/06/2011
793	<i>Socialist Organiser</i>	06/06/2011
794	Joint Industry Board for the Electrical Contracting Industry board and committee minutes	08/06/2011
795	Unite the Union - National Pay Negotiations Car Manufacturers in the UK	10/06/2011
796	Additional papers of Catherine Hoskyns	17/06/2011
797	Connect - the communications sector of Prospect	22/06/2011
798	<i>Diverse Britain 2007</i>	28/06/2011
799	Papers of David Widgery	30/06/2011
800	Universities Association for Lifelong Learning (UALL)	07/07/2011
801	National League of the Blind and Disabled: Additional Deposit	07/07/2011
802	Documents re the General Strike in the North East of England	12/07/2011
803	Interviews for <i>The Great Grunwick Strike, 1976-1978</i>	25/07/2011
804	National Union of Teachers (NUT): Cambridge Borough / City Association	28/07/2011

Further Information

Advisory Board Members:

Advisory Board Members:

Baroness Warwick of Undercliffe (Chairman)

Ms A. Bell (University Librarian and Director of the MRC)

Mrs C. Davies (CBI)

Ms R. Donaghy

Professor R. Fryer

Professor D. Howell (until July 2011)

Professor J. Martin

Ms J. Henderson (TUC)

Professor H. Marland*

Dr K. Gildart

Lord Morris of Handsworth

Professor M. Terry* (retired)

Professor P. Thane (until July 2011)

Dr M. Thomson*

*Members of the MRC Academic Committee

Modern Records Centre Staff

Ms Anne Bell, University Librarian, Director

Helen Ford, Archive Manager

Carole Jones, Records Assistant

James King, Senior Assistant Archivist

Elizabeth Morrison, Records Assistant (part-time)

Martin Sanders, Senior Assistant Archivist

Andree Whittaker, Records Assistant (part-time)

Elizabeth Wood, Assistant Archivist

Contact details

Modern Records Centre
University of Warwick Library
Coventry CV4 7AL
Tel. 024 7652 4219
Fax. 024 7652 4211

Email. archives@warwick.ac.uk
URL: www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/library/mrc/