

# MODERN RECORDS CENTRE INFORMATION BULLETIN

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## 1. *Twenty-fifth Anniversary*

The final celebration of the Centre's 25th anniversary will be the publication of a new supplement describing additions to its holdings. The last supplement was published in 1992, so details of seven years of accessions will be included. Publication is planned for September.

## 2. *Funding developments*

The Centre is delighted to have received a further grant from the Higher Education Funding Council for England's (HEFCE) Non-Formula Funding Programme. The grant will enable the Centre to participate in the Higher Education Archives Hub project, a pilot project aiming to give researchers access to collection-level descriptions of archives held at a number of universities. The Centre has been compiling collection-level descriptions of its holdings since last August but this grant will speed up this work. The results are already available via the Centre's webpages (see the end of this bulletin for the URL).

The Centre is also delighted to have received a grant from the Operational Research Society which will enable it to convert the existing finding aids for the ORS archive to the EAD format. We are very grateful to both these bodies for their support of the Centre.

## 3. *New deposits*

Part of the Cable and Wireless plc archive had been held in the Centre since 1993. It has now been removed to join the rest of the Cable and Wireless archives in Porthcurno, Cornwall. The archive is housed in the former underground telegraph station at Porthcurno. It is adjacent to the Museum of Submarine Telegraphy which has one of the world's best specialist collections of artefacts relating to undersea cables. Researchers wanting to use the archive should write to the Curator, The Cable & Wireless Porthcurno & Collections Trust, Eastern House, Porthcurno, Penzance, Cornwall, TR19 6JX; tel. 01736 810478; fax 01736 810640, email [mary.godwin@plc.cwplc.com](mailto:mary.godwin@plc.cwplc.com).

Other archives continue to be deposited. Some of them are described briefly in the following list; a complete list will be included in the Centre's *Annual Report*.

- *Ahrens papers*: Dani Ahrens has deposited her papers as a member of the Brighton branch of the International Socialist Group (ISG), which was

formed in 1985 after a split in the Socialist League. The ISG remained a member of the Fourth International after 1985. The papers cover the period c. 1985-93 and include Central Committee minutes, Youth Commission papers and journals such as *International*. (MSS.401)

- *Association of Publishers' Educational Representatives*: The Association was established in 1898. In 1906 the Northern area representatives broke away to form the Northern Association of Publishers' Educational Representatives. The two associations rejoined in 1945 using the APER name. The association was wound up in 1998. A small archive (six boxes) has been deposited; it includes material from both groups. The APER archive includes General Meetings and Executive Committee minutes, 1916-98; balance sheets, 1987-98; *News and Views*, no. 1-22 (1957-64); *CAPER*, no. 11- (1982-98, incomplete); members' handbooks, 1946/6-1991/2 (incomplete); *A.P.E.R. Fifty years of progress, 1894-1948* (APER, 1948); Diamond jubilee commemorative booklet (1958); and scrap books, 1898-1948, 1948-98. The NAPER material includes General meetings minutes, 1906-27; Executive Committee minutes, 1906-14, 1927-45; accounts, 1930-40; Roll of honour for 1914-19 (printed booklet with photographs); Member's handbook, 1943/4; and *Teacher's world*, 15 April 1914. (MSS.400)
- *Barclays Bank Staff Association*: The Centre hasn't yet had time to unpack the 17 bankers boxes deposited by the Association, but it includes material going back to the 1940s, and some relating to Martins Bank Staff Association. (MSS.396)
- *Certification Office for Trade Unions and Employers' Associations*: applications under the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992, s. 115, from trade unions for the refund of costs of secret postal ballots. Files covering 1991-3 have been added to the deposit. (MSS.388)
- *Committee of Vice-chancellors and Principals*: 638 boxes, plus several shelves of minutes make this the largest deposit received this year. The archive came with a list compiled by the CVCP, so it is already accessible for research. The files are arranged by topics from A for Academic Salaries or Adult Education to Y for relations with Yugoslavia. (MSS.399)
- *NALGO*: An additional deposit of minutes relating to the Gas industry has been made. It includes National Service Conditions Sub-Committee for the Gas Industry (known as the National Service Conditions sub-Committee (Gas) from June 1953; the Gas Committee, a sub-committee of Council, from June 1961), signed minutes, April 1953-Oct. 1972; National Gas Committee, signed minutes, July 1980-June 1983, July 1985-June 1987, July 1988-Dec. 1989. National Joint Council for Gas Staffs, minutes, 1947-79; National Joint Council for Gas Staffs, Staff Side, minutes, 1950-75, 1982-94; National Joint Council for Gas Staffs, Trade Union Side, minutes, 1980-3, 1992-4. Electricity Branch Circulars etc., 1989-90. (MSS.20)

- *National Westminster Bank (NatWest) Staff Association*: Management Committee minutes and papers, 1989-95. (MSS.398)
- *Operational Research Archive*: Several additions have been made to the archive, including some files of R. C. Tomlinson, President of the Society 1974. They refer to the proposed register of practitioners, 1973 and 'Marlow Seventy: the aftermath', 1970. (MSS.335/TOM)
- *Qualidata* have deposited interviews taped c.1976 by Professor H. Silver and Dr Martin C. Davis, relating to the history of the Council of National Academic Awards. The deposit includes a copy of Dr Davis's thesis, 'The council for National Academic Awards 1964-1974: a study of a validating agency,' (Loughborough Ph. D., 1979) and a list of documents relating to the CNAA in the Public Record Office. (MSS.371/CNAA) The interviews give another aspect to the CNAA archive itself, already in the Centre (MSS.322/CA).
- *Science Technology and Society Association*: The Association was established in 1979; it ceased to function c. 1987. It aimed to educate society generally about science and technology. The deposit includes minutes and accounts, files about conferences organised by the Association, *STSA Newsletter*, 1979-87 and other publications; *SISCON Newsletter*, nos. 3-7 (1976-8). (MSS.402)
- *Trade Union Information Group*: The group was formed to improve library and information services to trade unions and their members; it was active c. 1980-8. It issued a newsletter, organised workshops and meetings. Roger Backhouse was the Secretary. He had been commissioned to write a report by the British Library: *Information services for trade unionists*, British Library R.& D. Report no. 5695 (Elm Publications, 1982; included in the deposit). The papers include the constitution, minutes, 1980-85, correspondence, 1981-95, newsletter, nos. 1-19 (1979-88) and related correspondence. (MSS.397)
- *Sir (Francis) Arthur Vick (1911-1998)*: Sir Arthur was Chairman of the University of Warwick's Council 1977-90 and Pro-Chancellor 1977-92. He was also a member of the Centre's Advisory Board 1978-88. His family has deposited his papers. They include some personal papers, e.g. letters of congratulation on his Knighthood, 1973; papers relating to his work at the Ministry of Supply in the 1940s, at the Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell, 1950s, at various universities including Keele, Warwick and Queen's University, Belfast, 1950s-90s; as well as papers relating to his lectures, publications and conferences, 1940s-90s, and societies and organisations, including the Institute of Physics and the UGC, 1940s-90s. (MSS.395)

#### 4. *Staff*

Readers of this bulletin will know that we have been very fortunate in obtaining several grants from the HEFCE's Non-Formula Funding Programme to enable us to catalogue archives and to revise our *Summary*

*Guide* to meet new archival standards. Colleagues who joined us to work on these projects are now moving on.

David Bishop left the Centre in March to go to a post at Birmingham Reference Library. While he was with us he listed the papers of the Chamber of Shipping (MSS.367) in EAD format and he had begun to assist in the revision and conversion to EAD of the *Summary Guide*. Those finding aids are now available via the Centre's webpages. We were sad to lose him but wish him well in his new post.

David's work on the *Summary Guide* is continued by Sarah Hepworth who leaves us in July. Most of her time in the Centre has been spent listing the extensive and complicated papers of Clive Jenkins (MSS.79/6/CJ). Her finding aid should be available in the webpages shortly. Again, we are sorry to lose a colleague but wish her well in her move to London.

Sarah's cataloguing work will be continued on a part-time job-share basis by Eleanor Rowe, who has worked in the Centre on a part-time basis for several years, and a newcomer to the Centre, Monica Ory, former Deputy County Archivist at Warwickshire County Record Office.

Alan Crookham leaves the Centre in August. Alan has worked in the Centre since 1994, first cataloguing the papers of the GPMU union in a project funded by the GPMU, and then cataloguing later deposits of both the CBI and the TUC under the HEFCE project. As well as cataloguing Alan produced sources booklets on these archives. For the last year he has worked on the implementation of EAD in the Centre, and thanks to his efforts a procedure is in place and all the staff have been trained in its use. He has also led the revision of the *Summary Guide*, compiling name authority records for the organisations whose archives the Centre holds. Anyone who has struggled to implement new computer software will be aware of the tribulations he has faced and we are particularly grateful for his work. Alan is taking up a permanent post as Gallery Records Curator at the Tate Gallery in London. He will be greatly missed, but his new post sounds fascinating.

## **5. Telephone and Fax number changes**

The Centre now has its own fax machine. The number is +44 (0)1203 572988. Please note that from April 2000 (not 1 July 1999 as previously reported) the Centre's telephone and fax numbers will change to (tel.) +44 (0)24 7652 4219 and (fax) +44 (0)24 7657 2988.

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For further information about the Centre, its holdings and publications, contact the Archivist, Modern Records Centre, University Library, University of Warwick, Coventry, CV4 7AL  
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