

MODERN RECORDS CENTRE INFORMATION BULLETIN

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1. *Introduction*

This *Bulletin* records another busy five months at the Centre. Three new members of staff have been appointed, which has made possible the extension of the Centre's opening hours, to give an extra four hours of research access each week. Details are reported below.

2. *Funding developments*

The Research Support Libraries Programme's (RSLP) Access programme has granted the University Library funding for three years. This has enabled us to appoint an additional archivist and a part-time clerical assistant. These new posts will enable us to make our holdings more accessible by additional cataloguing. They will also enable us to maintain our lunchtime opening and to open until seven pm on Wednesdays and Thursdays. The new hours of opening began on June 1st.

3. *Higher Education Hub project*

The pilot project is now completed and nearly 3000 collection-level descriptions from 15 institutions are available to be searched via the hub's web pages (<http://www.archiveshub.ac.uk>) The Modern Records Centre has contributed 503 descriptions, about 80% of the entries in its *Summary Guide*. The sections in the *Summary Guide* for trade unions, employers' and trade associations, individuals and miscellaneous are almost completed. In addition, the Centre has created 1580 authority records relating to the Centre's holdings. These will enable us to improve the consistency of our cataloguing. A database of subject terms, using the Library of Congress Subject Headings, has also been created in the hope of improving access.

4. *Operational Research Society archive*

The Operational Research Society gave the Centre a grant to retrospectively convert the finding aids to its archives to the EAD format. Collection-level descriptions have been compiled for each part of the archive (listed and unlisted). The intellectual integrity and provenance of the archive has been preserved by a brief description of the archive as a whole with electronic 'hot-links' to the constituent parts and from those individual parts back to the 'top-level' description or, indeed, a related collection. In this way all the finding aids are linked to each other. The converted finding aids have been mounted on the Web and the full wealth and diversity of the archive has been made even more apparent. We are very grateful to the Society for its help.

5. *E. P. Thompson bursaries*

The Edward Thompson Memorial Bursary has been established by the Society for the Study of Labour History to honour one of its distinguished founders and past Presidents. The bursary supports research in the Centre by paying expenses up to £200 per annum. The first two bursaries have been awarded to Mr S. P. Kingston and Ms. S. Maenpaa, both studying for their Ph.D. Mr Kingston is studying adult education and feminism in Britain and Italy, 1970-80, at the University of Birmingham. Ms Maenpaa is studying catering personnel on British passenger liners, 1860-1938, at the University of Liverpool. For further information about the bursaries contact the archivist or look at the Centre's web pages.

6. *New deposits*

Archives continue to be deposited. They are described briefly in the following list. Some of them have yet to be processed, so that their entry is simply a 'marker.' As usual, a complete list will be included in the Centre's *Annual Report*. Please note that not all of them are available for research.

- *Confederation of British Industry* Additional papers have been deposited. (MSS.200/C)
- *Coventry Trades Council* Additional papers have been deposited. (MSS.5)
- *Engineering Employers Federation* A large deposit of additional papers has been made. (MSS.237)
- *Fire Brigade Union* The FBU has added to its deposit at the Centre. This addition includes publications from the 1980s and fills gaps in the Centre's run of the union's annual conference reports, 1928-84. (MSS.346)
- *Geoffrey Goodman* Papers relating to his 1979 biography of Frank Cousins. The research material includes notebooks, interview notes, correspondence and newspaper clippings relating to Cousins, who was TGWU General Secretary and first Minister of Technology in Harold Wilson's government. It includes interviews with Frank Cousins, Jack Jones, Harold Wilson, James Callaghan, Harold Macmillan, Harry Nicholas and Baroness Gaitskell. Mr Goodman had earlier deposited his papers on the Royal Commission on the Press with the Centre, and his Cousins papers now form part of this collection. (MSS.169)
- *International Transport Workers' Federation* Harold Lewis, former General Secretary of the ITWF, has deposited a note on the Americans and the ITWF, 1945-65. The note is an expanded version of a section of his thesis which deals with this subject. It sheds light on a crucial phase in the ITWF's history. (MSS.159)

- *Low Pay Commission* A further nine volumes, containing the research commissioned by and written evidence to the Commission's second report, have been deposited in the Centre. (MSS.392)
- *Manufacturing, Science, Finance* The previous bulletin recorded the receipt of a large additional deposit of MSF archives. It has now been unpacked and box listed. The 156 boxes mainly comprise records of the Technical, Administrative and Supervisory Section (TASS) and its immediate predecessor the Draughtsmen and Allied Technicians' Association. Records include committee minutes, representative council records, correspondence and publications. The deposit also includes records of other TASS predecessors, in particular the National Union of Sheet Metal Workers, Coppersmiths, Heating and Domestic Engineers and its several predecessors. Records include minutes, correspondence and publications. There are also a few records of the National Union of Gold, Silver and Allied Trades, the Tobacco Workers' Union and the Association of Patternmakers and Allied Craftsmen (all predecessors of TASS). All these records complement our existing deposit of TASS records (MSS.101). There are also some records of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs (ASTMS), another predecessor of MSF, which mainly relate to the merger with TASS to form MSF and which complement our existing ASTMS collection (MSS.79/ASW). In addition, there are records of MSF itself, mainly concerning the formation of the union, which are the first records of MSF we have received. (MSS.411)
- *National Cycle Archive* Additional deposits have been received, including publications relating to London Cycling campaign publications 1990s. (MSS.328)
- *Operational Research Society* Some miscellaneous additions to the archive include a report from Pedigree Petfoods concerning the optimal purchase of advertising slots on television, 1971; and *A History of Management Science at Imperial College, 1955-1989* by Professor S. Eilon. (MSS.335/MIS/15-16)
- *Transport and General Workers' Union* The TGWU's most recent deposit includes archives of the union's predecessor unions. They include Executive Committee minutes of the Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Labourers' Union, 1901-10; branch minutes of the London Carmen's Trade Union, 1889-1918; notes for benefit concerts for members of the London Cabdrivers Trade Union, 1893-1928; and quarterly reports of the Yorkshire Glass Bottle Makers United Trade Protection Society, 1871-3. The deposit also includes many draft speeches and articles by Ernest Bevin, c. 1920-45. Especially noteworthy is Bevin's diary for his trip to the United States, 1926. (MSS.126)
- *Sir Arthur Vick* Additional papers and private correspondence relating to his various appointments and honours (MSS.395)

- *William Wilson MP* Papers relating to his work on divorce law reform, 1967-8. The papers are only available for research under strict conditions of access and use. The papers have been deposited via ESRC Qualidata. (MSS.371/Brown)

7. *Staff*

New members of staff have joined the Centre. Charles Fonge joined us last November, to work on various projects. His new appointment is a combination of RSLP Access work and work on the University of Warwick archives. We are delighted that he will continue to work with us.

Victoria Peters has also joined us, funded partly by the RSLP Access programme. She comes to us from London Metropolitan Archives where she was an assistant archivist for 4 years. While she was there she worked on a wide range of archives including the records of the Greater London Council, J.Lyons and Co. and H.M. Prison Wandsworth.

Marie Osborne has been appointed to an additional Records Assistant post, again funded by the RSLP Access programme. She will be mainly responsible for the production and return of material in the searchroom, so she will be very important in our contact with our researchers.

Another new face in our searchroom is that of Stevie Harman. She is participating in a Library initiative to give its clerical staff the opportunity to work in different sections. Stevie will be working two mornings a week in the Centre for the next year, while Joanne Burman works in the Library's Periodicals Department.

8. *Telephone and Fax number changes*

Please note the Centre's changed telephone and fax numbers: (tel.) +44 (0)24 7652 4219 and (fax) +44 (0)24 7657 2988. The Centre's website URL has also been changed to the more memorable <http://modernrecords.warwick.ac.uk>. The original URL will still work.

For further information about the Centre, its holdings and publications, contact the Archivist, Modern Records Centre, University Library, University of Warwick, Coventry, CV4 7AL; Telephone +44 (0)24 7652 4219; Fax. +44 (0)24 7657 2988; email: archives@warwick.ac.uk. URL: <<http://modernrecords.warwick.ac.uk>>