

MODERN RECORDS CENTRE INFORMATION BULLETIN

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1. *Introduction*

This bulletin covers the period since our *Annual Report* was published, August 2002 to February 2003. Looking back, I am always startled by how much we have achieved, thanks to the hard work of all the staff of the Centre. Most of the work has been detailed cataloguing, which takes time to be completed but which is the bedrock of our ability to help both our depositors and our researchers.

2. *National Cycle Archive*

The bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund to catalogue the archives, books and periodicals in the National Cycle Archive was successful and work started on the published material in November and on the archives in January. So far 383 books, 120 journal titles and 42 CTC District Association magazines have been catalogued, classified and assigned location numbers or Library of Congress classification numbers. They include a large run of the title *Cycling*, later *Cycling weekly*, from 1910 to the present day. There are also good runs of the *CTC Gazette*, *Fellowship News* (Fellowship of Cycling Old-timers), *Rough-stuff Journal* and the *Tricycle Association Journal* to name just a few. Highlights from the books include books on velocipede patents i.e. bicycles (1867-1900) and a variety of contour/route maps of roads for Great Britain and Europe. The oldest book in the collection is Daniel Paterson's *New and accurate description of all the direct and principal cross roads in Great Britain* dated 1772. Among the numerous cycling anecdotes and humerous cycling literature is a rare copy of J. K. Jerome's *Three men on wheels* (1900). There are also several histories of English cycling clubs. The archival work has concentrated on the papers of the Cycling Touring Club's legal papers.

The National Cycle Archive has added to the material available in the Centre. A number of printed magazines and journals from various sources have been deposited, with some purchased catalogues and

photographs, and a further deposit from Derek Roberts, which includes correspondence files of the Fellowship of Cycling Old Timers, 1996-1998 and the drawings used in *Fellowship News*. George Waters has sent two photographs of the Bath Road Club members gathered at Theale and at a club dinner in the late 1940s or early 1950s.

3. *Archives Hub*

Work on collection level descriptions for the Archives Hub was completed last September. The Centre remains very committed to supporting the work of the Hub and has continued to send revisions of existing descriptions and any new ones compiled since then. We are also experimenting with becoming a 'spoke' of the Hub, that is we will maintain our data here at Warwick rather than send it to the central server in Manchester. We hope that this will enable us to update our files more easily.

4. *Access to Archives (A2A)*

Over a hundred of the Centre's paper lists have been converted to EAD through the help of the A2A project led by the Public Record Office. Those lists have now been published on the Centre's own web site, as well as being available on the A2A website.

5. *AHRB Grant*

Work has started on cataloguing the later papers of the TUC, financed by the Arts and Humanities Research Board. As the archive is very large (over 3000 boxes) a collaborative approach has been made by five of the archivists working on the material part-time. Large amounts of files are being wheeled in and out of the strongroom and impressive inroads are being made on the material.

6. *Cataloguing*

One of the fruits of the cataloguing work is a full list of the Education Committee (Closed) Case Files, 1925-1971 in the National Union of Teachers' archive (MSS 179).

These records provide a fascinating insight into the development of the education system in Britain during the last century. They show changes in the teaching profession and chart a growing concern with all aspects of child welfare. The material is particularly strong on the role of teachers during the Second World War, including the evacuation of children. There is also a wealth of material on post war Educational Reconstruction and the 1944 Education Act. Many other aspects of educational policy and child welfare are touched upon as the NUT was often invited to submit evidence on the major reports and issues of the day, or asked to investigate matters on behalf of its members. The medical inspection of school children, the effects of

the cinema on young people and the administration of juvenile employment are just a few of the subjects which are included. We hope to put the list onto our website shortly.

7. New deposits

Archives continue to be deposited in large quantities. They are described briefly in the following list. Some of them have yet to be processed, so that their entry here is simply a 'marker.' As usual, a complete list will be included in the Centre's Annual Report. Some of the collections are subject to access restrictions; please contact us for further details.

- Association of Learned Societies in the Social Sciences: executive meeting minutes, 1982-1989; Social Science Reports, 1990-1997; Social Science Forum minutes of the Statistics Sub-Committee and early meetings etc. 1988-1989; SSF Evaluation Sub Committee, 1991-1994; meetings and seminars, 1991-1994, founding conference 1994; early years of UKES with Evaluation Society Interim Council meeting minutes, 1985; UK Evaluation Society Newsletter and *The Evaluator* and UKES Directory of members, 2000 and 2001; Social Research Association Committee minutes, 1978-1979; Directory of members, 1978-1999 [incomplete]; and various reports. (MSS.487)
- Dr Mary Brennan: five boxes were added to the archive in November 2002. They include a file on Peace Education (1980s), files on national and international issues and correspondence with the media, activists and others (1990s). The majority of the files are currently closed. (MSS.410)
- British Association of Social Workers: Social Workers' Educational Trust: minutes of meetings 1990-9, papers relating to the appointment of trustees and the allocation of scholarships, 1998-1999, annual reports 1989-1999, application forms 1993-1995. (MSS.378/SWET)
- Grunwick strike papers: APEX correspondence files, 1976-1978; Grunwick Strike Committee bulletins, correspondence, accounts, 1976-1978; Scarman inquiry verbatim minutes, 1977. (MSS.464)
- Howard League for Penal Reform: letters to the press by Martin Wright as Director, 1973-1977, and Dr. Wright's copies of minutes and papers of Council and other committees, 1984-1999. (MSS.16G)
- Institute of Business Process Re-engineering: correspondence, minutes, financial reports, general information and miscellaneous papers, 1993-2000. (MSS.465)

- National Institute of Social Workers and related organisations: a van load of papers was deposited when the Institute closed down. Unpacking is not yet complete but, as well as the Institute's own papers, the deposit includes the papers of Dame Eileen Younghusband and papers of the Seebohm Committee, 1966-1967. (MSS.463)
- National Union of Public Employees: some 14 boxes were transferred to the Centre from the Northern College. They are not yet unpacked. (MSS.281)
- Operational Research Archives: 5 boxes of Operational Research Society papers relating to the period up to 1981. (MSS.335/SO)
- More material was transferred from the Library's 41 T and U collection, broadening and deepening the Centre's trade union holdings. Examples of the additions include the Amalgamated Association of Beamers, Twisters and Drawers, the Amalgamated Society of Farriers, the Amalgamated Society of Journeymen Felt Hatters and the National Association of Probation Officers. Full details will be included in our *Annual Report*.

8. Staff

Rachel Wood, who has been an Assistant Archivist at the Modern Records Centre since October 2001, left at the end of February to take up her new post as Assistant Archivist at the Northumberland County Record Office in Morpeth. While she has been with us Rachel has contributed a large amount of detailed cataloguing, including the Release archive, large sections of the enormous NUT archive, and part of the TUC archive. She also carried out a survey of the use of the Centre's web pages and a myriad of other tasks. We will miss her; we wish her well in her new post.

Shashika Poopalasingham spent a week at the Centre as a volunteer. She completed valuable cataloguing work on the papers of the British League of Racing Cyclists.

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;

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