Accession number: 12/35

**Historical Background:** Papers collected by Baron Peddie of the City and County of Kingston upon Hull (5 April 1905 - 13 April 1978), who was a member of the Hull Information Committee (Secretary from Aug 1941-1945) and Secretary of the Hull Sunday Association (1920s-1930s).

James Peddie started his work for the Co-operative Society as Publicity Manager in Hull, and later became a leading figure in the Co-operative movement. During the Second World War he served on the Ministries of Information and Food, and was awarded an MBE in 1944. Peddie also served on the national executive of the Co-operative Party and chaired the Party in 1957-1965. He was created Baron Peddie, of the City and County of Kingston upon Hull on 9 February 1961, and served on the Labour benches as a Labour Co-operative peer.

The Ministry of Information [MOI] was formed on 4 Sep 1939, the day after war was declared, and it was responsible for publicity and propaganda. Preparations to form local Information Committees began immediately and Hull's Town Clerk Alexander Pickard was asked to approach political parties and organisations who should be represented on the Committee. The initial meeting was delayed because of MOI restructures and was eventually held on 29 Mar 1940. Councillor Alfred Graham became the Honorary Secretary. The first full meeting was held on 29 August 1941, at which time Mr J M Peddie replaced Councillor Graham and became Committee Secretary.

It was decided that Hull would also have responsibility for parts of the East Riding and so was given the name 'Hull and East Riding Information Committee'. It was later split into two separate entities, one for Hull and one for the East Riding (for which we have no records).

Activities included reporting back to regional office on morale and local events, organising public meetings and visits to Hull by prominent individuals, coordinating post-air raid announcements, as well as supporting local campaigns and overseeing local activities generally. Their work continued throughout the war until the local Information Committees were dissolved in January 1945.

The Hull Sunday Association was formed in January 1883 when members of a bible class who wished to discuss broader and more unorthodox matters formed a separate discussion group. Early discussions were dominated by local and national politics, but matters relating to education and poor law were also discussed. Early lectures were often given by the members themselves but later on external speakers became more common. During the 1900s, activities were more varied and included recreational activities such as musical evenings.

James Peddie was Secretary of the Hull Sunday Association for a period of at least 8 years in the 1920s and 1930s. The Society was active until at least 1942.

**Custodial history:** Papers deposited by Mr Ian Peddie Q.C., Baron Peddie's son, in June 2012.

**Description:** The papers collected by Baron Peddie of the City and County of Kingston upon Hull, consist of two sub-collections; one comprising of material relating to the establishment of the Hull Information Committee and its functions; the second relating to the Hull Sunday Association:

C DIIP/1 comprises files relating to the Hull Information Committee. The material includes correspondence relating to the formation of the Hull and East Riding Information Committee as well as ongoing activities of the Hull Information Committee. The collection includes Minutes (incomplete run), Secretary's Reports and material on practical arrangements for post-air raid announcements, reporting on home intelligence and specific local issues. It also includes files for activities organised by the Information Committee such as visits to Hull by prominent speakers, including Ernest Bevin.

C DIIP/2 comprises of minutes of the Hull Sunday Association for 1891 and 1931-1934, news cuttings, syllabuses and magazines, as well as a programme for Hull Civic Peace week, 1937.

#### **Arrangement:**

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C DIIP/1	Hull Information Committee, 1939-1945
C DIIP/1/1	Post raid arrangements and information, 1941-1944
C DIIP/1/2	Home intelligence, 1942-1944
C DIIP/1/3	Committee meeting agendas, notices, reports and minutes, 1939-1945
C DIIP/1/4	Reports on the effects of air raids, 1941-1944
C DIIP/1/5	Minutes of the Hull Information Committee, 1941-1945
C DIIP/1/6	Correspondence regarding the formation of the Hull and East Riding
	Information Committee, 1939-1941
C DIIP/1/7	Hull Information Committee events and visits, 1940-1941
C DIIP/1/8	Hull Information Committee activities, 1940-1941
C DIIP/2	Hull Sunday Association, 1891-1937
C DIIP/2/1	Minutes, 1891-1934

Extent: 3 boxes

#### Related material:

Hull's war records are held at Hull City Archives, please see our *Guide to The City of Hull's Second World War Records*.

The central records of the Ministry Of Information are held at the National Archives under the reference INF.

An incomplete run of Hull Sunday Association Syllabuses for 1926-1942 can be found at L.374.24 in the Local Studies Library and Hull University Archives holds a further Hull Sunday Association Minute Book for 1891-1892 at U DX/84/32. These are housed at the Hull History Centre.

**Access conditions:** Access will be granted to any accredited reader, except for those items containing information on named individuals which may be restricted in accordance with the Data Protection Act. To consult these records please see staff for details.

C DIIP/1	HULL INFORMATION COMMITTEE	1939-1945
C DIIP/1/1	Post raid arrangements and information 9 files	1941-1944
C DIIP/1/1/1	Correspondence regarding arrangements with Turner Bros for loudspeaker vans to disseminate emergency news Includes details of a disagreement about the amount payable 1 file	5 Feb-25 Aug 1941
C DIIP/1/1/2	Ministry of Information memoranda and correspondence regarding emergency arrangements including specific responsibilities, dissemination of official news and Instructions for Emergency Procedure for North Eastern Region 1 file	15 Aug-26 Sep 1941
C DIIP/1/1/3	Correspondence regarding BBC Emergency News Broadcasting, liaison between Mr Peddie, Regional Office and the BBC 1 file	26 Sep-22 Oct 1941
C DIIP/1/1/4	Correspondence regarding arrangements with Turner Bros for loudspeaker vans to disseminate emergency news The agreement was eventually cancelled as Turner Bros were unable to offer the Hull Information Committee first claim on the loudspeaker van in the event of an emergency 1 file	8 Oct 1941- 23 Jan 1942
C DIIP/1/1/5	Correspondence regarding dissemination of news in an emergency Discussion of arrangements for Hull Information Bulletins to be delivered to East Riding villages following a rearrangement of East Riding parishes 1 file	27 Nov-2 Dec 1941
C DIIP/1/1/6	Report. 'After the Raid' by Alexander Pickard. Reprinted from 'Justice of the Peace and Local Government Review' 1 file	13-20 Dec 1941
C DIIP/1/1/7	Correspondence regarding retainer fees for loudspeaker equipment Regarding payments made to the Central Hull Labour Party and Public Cleansing Committee 1 file	10 Feb 1942- 29 Dec 1944

C DIIP/1/1/8	Correspondence regarding confirmation of arrangements for volunteer announcers to make post-raid annoucements using loudspeaker vans 1 file	18 Feb-14 Mar 1942
C DIIP/1/1/9	Ministry of Information Memorandum. 'Duties of Emergency Information Officer'.  1 file	8 Jun 1943
C DIIP/1/2	Home intelligence 11 files, 2 items	1942- 1944
C DIIP/1/2/1	Correspondence regarding deceased local servicemen Regarding an investigation into unsatisfactory burials and transportation of local servicemen's bodies	5 Jan 1942- 4 May 1943
	This item contains personal sensitive information and is not available for public inspection until January 2019 1 file	
C DIIP/1/2/2	Weekly Home Intelligence Reports Correspondence from Regional Office requesting weekly reports from Mr Peddie on public opinion, together with a regional report for 27 Jul 1942 1 file	9 Jul 1942- 27 Jul 1942
C DIIP/1/2/3	Letter from Arthur K. Sykes to the Ministry of Information and Winston Churchill Arthur K. Sykes suggested the use of British propagandists in the USA to improve Anglo-American relations. There is a reply from the Ministry of Information declining his offer.  1 file	15 Dec 1942- 14 Apr 1943
C DIIP/1/2/4	Correspondence regarding Ministry of Information knowledge of the Hull Regional Survey This was a local organisation which focused on problems of postwar reconstruction 1 file	1 Feb-25 Mar 1943
C DIIP/1/2/5	Correspondence regarding a complaint made by Miss A. Staveley about fires started on local land 1 file	16 Feb-9 Mar 1943

C DIIP/1/2/6	Correspondence regarding British Prisoners of War Discusses the need for increased public acknowledgement of the fact that British prisoners of war in Germany were still being held in chains 1 file	21 Feb-21 Apr 1943
C DIIP/1/2/7	Correspondence with Hull and District Trades Council regarding the inadequacy of transport provision in Hull 1 file	8 Apr-10 May 1943
C DIIP/1/2/8	Correspondence regarding changes to a local man's blind pension 1 file	8-25 May 1943
C DIIP/1/2/9	Correspondence between Mr Peddie and Regional Office regarding local issues including public opinion to be included in weekly intelligence reports  There are also two completed forms for the returning of Home Intelligence information to Regional Office, as well as a letter regarding Italian prisoners of war  1 file	23 Mar 1943- 21 Dec 1944
C DIIP/1/2/10	Correspondence regarding complaints received from representatives of the Hull Information Committee about the infrequency of Hull Information Committee meetings  1 file	Aug-13 Sep 1943
C DIIP/1/2/11	Letter regarding monthly testing of North Eastern region air raid sirens 1 item	27 Oct 1943
C DIIP/1/2/12	Correspondence with Ministry of Information Censorship unit regarding the Priestman Bros News Bulletin Its name was changed to 'P. B. News Bulletin' in order to avoid the risk of disclosing their location 1 file	24 Mar-3 Apr 1944
C DIIP/1/2/13	Letter regarding Home Intelligence reports To Mr Peddie from Ministry of Information Regional Office. Confirms discontinuation of weekly Home Intelligence reports. 1 item	20 Dec 1944

C DIIP/1/3	Committee meeting agendas, notices, reports and minutes 5 files, 6 items	1939-1945
C DIIP/1/3/1	Hull and East Riding Information Committee, Agendas and Minutes Includes reports and correspondence regarding its formation 1 file	12 Sep 1939- 29 Aug 1941
C DIIP/1/3/2	Hand-drawn diagrams showing lines of communication between: a) Central Office (Headquarters of Services for Relief of the Distressed) and its relation to District Offices, Public Services and the public b) District Offices and the public	1940s
	The diagrams include references to Reception Centres, First Aid Depots, ARP Wardens, Corporation Departments and the Searcher Service 1 item	
C DIIP/1/3/3	Reports. Information and Enquiry Service. 'Report of Air Raids Welfare Office and Enquiry Service' (13 Feb 1941) and 'Information and Enquiry Service after Air Raids (Second Report): General Information, News Bulletin; Searcher Service' (7 May 1941) 3 items	13 Feb-7 May 1941
C DIIP/1/3/4	Correspondence regarding restructure of the Hull and East Riding Information Committee The committee was split into one committee for Hull and one for the East Riding 1 file	28 May-23 Jul 1941
C DIIP/1/3/5	Hull Information Committee, Minutes Minutes from the first meeting only. There is also a letter from Councillor Alfred Graham to Mr Peddie regarding his possible election as Committee Secretary. 2 items	20-29 Aug 1941

C DIIP/1/3/6	Agendas and Secretary's Reports The Reports (quarterly until 1944; six-monthly thereafter) describe films shown, speakers hosted, visits from foreign diplomats and journalists, as well as home intelligence. There are also reports from occasional special meetings held in reaction to air raids. They have been split into two series which are arranged chronologically.  2 files	29 Aug 1941- 22 Jan 1945
C DIIP/1/3/6/1	Agendas and Secretary's Reports 1 file	29 Aug 1941- 30 Jun 1943
C DIIP/1/3/6/2	Agendas and Secretary's Reports 1 file	23 Sep 1943- 22 Jan 1945
C DIIP/1/4	Reports on the effects of air raids The reports in this series were written by Canon A. Berry, Councillor Mrs Hangar and Mr James M. Peddie and relate to Raid numbers 26-27, 32, 33, 34, 35, 39, 45, 46, 56, and 59 1 file, 18 items	1941-1944
C DIIP/1/4/1	'Air Raid Action in Hull, Saturday night 22nd February 1941 and Sunday night 23rd February 1941' 1 item	22-23 Feb 1941
C DIIP/1/4/2	'Enemy Activity upon Hull on the nights of Thursday 13th March 1941, Friday 14th March 1941, Tuesday 18th March 1941' 1 item	13-18 Mar 1941
C DIIP/1/4/3	'Effects of Enemy Air Action upon Hull on the night of Monday the 31st March 1941' 1 item	31 Mar 1941
C DIIP/1/4/4	'Report of Psychological Effects of Air Raid action on the night of Tues April 15th 1941' 1 item	15 Apr 1941
C DIIP/1/4/5	'Effects of Enemy Air Attack upon Hull on the nights of Wednesday 7th May 1941 and Thursday 8th May 1941' 1 item	7-8 May 1941
C DIIP/1/4/6	'Effects of Enemy Air Attack upon Hull during the early hours of Friday morning the 18 July 1941' 1 item	18 Jul 1941

C DIIP/1/4/7	'Effects of Enemy Air Attack upon Hull on the night of Sunday 31st August 1941 - an observer's report' 1 item	31 Aug 1941
C DIIP/1/4/8	Material relating to the registration of women at local Employment Exchanges Correspondence and a brief report giving the views of the Hull Emergency Sub-Committee 1 file	10-28 Apr 1941
C DIIP/1/4/9	Memorandum on Information Committees Ministry of Information memorandum giving scope and functions of information committees 1 item	[1941]
C DIIP/1/4/10	Memorandum. Recommendations regarding dissemination of news in an emergency.  1 item	n.d. [1941]
C DIIP/1/4/11	Photographs depicting various activities of Hull Information Committee Includes photographs taken at a Film Show at the Dorchester Theatre, a visit of three Canadian officers, a gathering at the Metal Box Co, and the visit of the editor of the Toronto Telegraph, Mr Snider 9 items	1941-6 Feb 1944
C DIIP/1/5	Minutes of the Hull Information Committee 2 files, 1 item	1941-1945
C DIIP/1/5/1	Minutes of the Hull & District Information Committee The last meeting for which there are minutes is 11 Jan 1945. There are also two letters from the Ministry of Information concerning the dissolution of the Local Information Committees. 1 file	29 Aug 1941-12 June 1945
C DIIP/1/5/2	Material relating to arrangements for Anglo-Soviet Week. Includes agendas for the Advisory Committee.  1 file	8 Mar-14 Mar 1942

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C DIIP/1/5/3	Paper on Public Feeling About America by J. M. Peddie. Regarding local opinion on American war effort, U.S. Government, probable American influence on post-war world, American troops and on American attitudes to Britain.  1 item	c.1943
C DIIP/1/6	Correspondence regarding the formation of the Hull and East Riding Information Committee	1939-1941
	Includes a memorandum on the objectives of local information committees. Topics include the recommendation for representation of political parties and organisations and discussion of inclusion of certain parts of the East Riding. Includes correspondence with Alfred Graham about changes in membership of the committee and letters from organisations claiming that they have been unfairly omitted.	
	This series has been split into three files, arranged chronologically. 3 files	
C DIIP/1/6/1	Correspondence regarding the formation of the Hull and East Riding Information Committee 1 file	5 Sep 1939- 29 Sep 1939
C DIIP/1/6/2	Correspondence regarding the formation of the Hull and East Riding Information Committee Includes an Agenda and Minutes for the Inaugural Meeting of the Hull and East Riding Information Committee on 29 Mar 1940 1 file	2 Oct 1939- 29 Mar 1940
C DIIP/1/6/3	Correspondence regarding the formation of the Hull and East Riding Information Committee 1 file	4 Apr 1940- 1 May 1941
C DIIP/1/7	Hull Information Committee events and visits 7 files	1940-1941
C DIIP/1/7/1	Visit of Sir Paul Dukes K.B.E. Includes correspondence regarding planning of the event, RSVPs from those invited and a report on the meeting addressed by Sir Paul Dukes on 6 June 1940 and several newspaper cuttings regarding the visit	29 Mar-17 Jun 1940

1 file

C DIIP/1/7/2	Visit of Professor John Hilton Correspondence, notes and newscuttings relating to the planning of radio broadcaster Professor John Hilton's visit to Hull on 7 August 1940, where he addressed a public meeting at the Royal Institution 1 file	5 Jul-15 Aug 1940
C DIIP/1/7/3	Visit of Ernest Bevin Correspondence and extracts from Minutes relating to the planning of the Minister of Labour Ernest Bevin's visit to Hull. Includes lists of ticket holders for Mr Bevin's address at City Hall on 11 May 1941, which was cancelled after the Hull Blitz on 7-9 May, although the Civic dinner at the Station Hotel went ahead as planned. There are letters of thanks following the visit. 1 file	22 Nov 1940- 29 May 1941
C DIIP/1/7/4	Ministry of Labour and National Service Campaign Correspondence regarding a series of meetings to be held in Hull in connection with the Ministry of Labour and National Service Recruiting Campaign 1 file	26 Apr-2 Jun 1941
C DIIP/1/7/5	Auxiliary Territorial Service Recruitment Drive Correspondence and extracts of meetings regarding a planned scheme to recruit female trainees for work with the ATS and a planned recruitment week during 11-16 August 1941. The recruitment week was cancelled in light of the heavy bombing in Hull.	3 May-11 Aug 1941
C DIIP/1/7/6	United Effort Week Correspondence, memoranda from Regional Office and extracts from minutes regarding the desirability of holding a United Effort Week in Hull to demonstrate the war effort being made, as in other towns. It was decided that in view of other activities it would be deferred.  1 file	3 Jul-22 Nov 1940
C DIIP/1/7/7	Wartime Social Survey Regarding whether a Wartime Social Survey should be undertaken in Hull as per Ministry of Information's suggestion. It was decided that such a survey had already been completed in Hull and that another was unnecessary. 1 file	8 Aug-22 Nov 1940

C DIIP/1/8	Hull Information Committee activities 12 files	1940-1941
C DIIP/1/8/1	Correspondence between the Honorary Secretary and Town Clerk regarding use of the Guildhall for committee meetings 1 file	29 Mar-17 May 1940
C DIIP/1/8/2	Correspondence regarding the possibility, later abandoned, of holding evening dinner-hour meetings for shift workers  1 file	3-17 Jul 1940
C DIIP/1/8/3	Correspondence regarding letters received by the Hull Information Committee from a Mr Dawson The original letter (which is not present) was forwarded to Headquarters  1 file	4 Jul 1940- 8 Jan 1941
C DIIP/1/8/4	Correspondence with the Ministry of Information (regional office) and Alderman Farmery regarding construction of huts and his suggestion that Tarran Industries may have a suitable metal with which to construct them 1 file	18-24 Jul 1940
C DIIP/1/8/5	Correspondence regarding Mr J. R. Kirkham's request to stay in the city in the event of an evacuation order Mr Kirkham's employer, Allied Newspapers Ltd, requested that Mr Kirkham be permitted to stay in Hull if an evacuation order was issued to continue with his duties. It was decided that he should approach the Chief Constable for permission.	22-30 Jul 1940
C DIIP/1/8/6	Correspondence regarding the desirability of having speeches by the Minister for Labour and National Service printed for distribution 1 file	14-15 Oct 1940
C DIIP/1/8/7	Correspondence regarding the formation of a National Seamen's Welfare Board, including a request from the Ministry of Labour and National Service to establish a Local Welfare Committee in Hull 1 file	17-24 Oct 1940

C DIIP/1/8/8	Correspondence regarding staffing of district offices Regarding the possibility, later abandoned, of staffing district offices with a representative of the Ministry of Information in the event of a blitz 1 file	5-7 Feb 1941
C DIIP/1/8/9	Correspondence regarding efforts to improve the film showing service by the appointment of a special correspondent to liaise with the East Riding villages  1 file	10 Mar 1941
C DIIP/1/8/10	Correspondence regarding Defence Regulations certificates Regarding the provision of 'D.R. form 20' for Information Committee members, which would enable them to move around freely during times of emergency 1 file	18 Apr-10 May 1941
C DIIP/1/8/11	Ministry of Information Bulletins Bulletins covering the Blitz period (9-15 May), together with notes relating to the printing of bulletins and to loudspeaker vans and announcements 1 file	8 May-31 Jul 1941
C DIIP/1/8/12	Correspondence regarding the first meetings of the Hull Information Committee and the East Riding Information Committee, with membership list for the new Hull Information Committee 1 file	20-21 Aug 1941
C DIIP/2	HULL SUNDAY ASSOCIATION Comprises of minutes of the Hull Sunday Association for 1891 and 1931-1934, news cuttings, syllabuses and official magazines, as well as a programme for Hull Civic Peace week, 1937 6 items, 1 bundle, 3 volumes	1891-1937
C DIIP/2/1	Minutes 2 volumes	1891-1934
C DIIP/2/1/1	Minute Book Includes syllabus for 1890-1891 and a list of members, news cuttings and cash account for 1891 at the back of the volume 1 volume	21 Jun 1891- 29 Sep 1891

C DIIP/2/1/2	Minute Book Includes the rules of the Association and several news cuttings. Also contains a history of the Association written by James Adamson, Recorder, in January 1933, which includes a list of past presidents and notes on eminent members. 1 volume	31 May 1931- 23 Mar 1934
C DIIP/2/2	Volume of news cuttings Handmade volume containing the script for The Story of the Savoy which was performed at the Co-operative Hall on 3 Nov [1933]. Contains excerpts from light opera, newspaper cuttings relating to the Association (for 1931-1933) and a photograph of members dated 1932 with some members named. Includes syllabuses for 1892, 1908, 1925, 1927, 1930-1933 and a photograph of the Rev A McLean, Secretary to the Association in the early 1920s. 1 volume	Autumn 1892- 6 Nov 1933
C DIIP/2/3	Hull Sunday Association Syllabus and flyer Details of lectures and debates 2 items	14 Jan-30 Dec 1934
C DIIP/2/4	Hull Sunday Association Syllabus and flyer Details of lectures and debates 2 items	6 Jan-29 Sep 1935
C DIIP/2/5	Magazines. 'Youth and Truth: The Official Organ of the Federation of Youth'. Issues 5-7, 9-10 & 14 of a new series. Printed in Hull. Includes reports on meetings held in Hull, opinion pieces and notices for upcoming events. 1 bundle/6 items	Apr 1932-Jan 1933
C DIIP/2/6	Official Programme and Magazine for City of Hull Civic Peace Week The Peace Week was held in conjunction with the local branch of the League of Nations Union. Includes itineraries, an address from the Mayor Frederick Holmes and opinion pieces. 2 items	2-19 Oct 1937