

U DP177 Letters from Philip Larkin and Douglas 1970-1997
Dunn to Ted Tarling

Biographical Background:

Edwin (Ted) Tarling was a musician, artist and publisher who was born in Stoneferry, East Hull on 16 June 1938. He attended Hull Grammar School and later Hull Art College. This may have resulted in his attempt at being a cartoonist which led to him having two cartoons published. He was probably best known for his participation in the Hull Jazz scene in the 1950s playing the clarinet with other local jazz musicians such as *Al Jenner* and *Roy Burnett*. At this time he appeared in a Jazz *masterclass* which was filmed for a television programme.

He founded the *Sonus Press* which published a literary magazine *Wave* which included poems by Philip Larkin, Joan Barton and Anne Stevenson (author of *Bitter Fame*, a biography of Sylvia Plath) with whom he kept in contact for many years. Ted's *Sonus Press*, which was hand set, printed and published by himself, published Frank Redpaths's poems *To The Village* with an introduction by Douglas Dunn, in 1986.

Ted moved to Cambridge, from Hull, in 1994 to help his sister look after their mother. Ted also painted, took up photography in later life and enjoyed writing clerihews. He died in Cambridge on 29 November 2004 after a prolonged period of illness.

Custodial history: Purchased from Ted Tarling, Hull, November 1989, with the aid of the V&A Purchase Grant Fund

Extent: 80 items

Related Material:

U DP158 Archives of the Poetry Magazine *Wave* (Sonus Press)
There are also items amongst Philip Larkin letters and photographs

U DP177/1	Letters from Philip Larkin to Ted Tarling sent from Hull, Oxford and Leicester. Comprising 9 handwritten signed letters, 11 typescript letters signed, 4 postcards and 3 undated Christmas cards 27 items	23 Sep 1970- 29 Mar 1985
U DP177/2	Letter from Harry Chambers to Ted Tarling 1 item	13 Sep 1976
U DP177/3	Letters from Douglas Dunn to Ted Tarling sent from Tayport. Comprising 15 handwritten signed letters, 17 typescript letters signed, 1 postcard and 5 Christmas cards 38 items	31 May 1974- 19 Dec 1989
U DP177/4	Letters from Douglas Dunn to Ted Tarling, sent from Tayport and St. Andrews. Comprising 8 typescript letters signed and 6 handwritten signed letters 14 items	5 Mar 1990- 20 Nov 1997