

U DX217

Records of Hull Fabian Society

1943 - 1948

Historical Background:

The Fabian Society was established in 1884 as a socialist society committed to gradual social reform rather than revolution. Amongst its early leaders were George Bernard Shaw and Sidney and Beatrice Webb. The Society joined with the trade union movement to found the Labour Party in 1900. It remains an influential left of centre think tank. A branch was established in Hull in November 1943, with 16 members, including Commander Harry Pursey (elected as Labour MP for Hull East in 1945), and a committee chaired by local businessman Alec Horsley. Its main activities included organising public meetings, 'Brains Trusts' and film shows, as well as providing practical help to local Labour parties and their candidates during elections.

Custodial history:

Donated by Eileen Fletcher, Cottingham, through Prof. John Saville, Department of Economic and Social History, University of Hull, June 1990

Description:

These local records document the activities of the Society during the 1940s and comprise annual reports, notices of meetings and lists of members and subscribers. The correspondence includes single letters from Aneurin Bevan MP, Edith Summerskill and Herbert Morrison.

Extent: 82 items

Related material:

Other repositories:

Main archive of the Fabian Society, London School of Economics Library: Archives Division

Access conditions:

Access will be granted to any accredited reader

Hull History Centre: Records of Hull Fabian Society

U DX217/1	Annual reports 5 items	1944-1948
U DX217/2	Lists of subscribers 2 items	1944-1946
U DX217/3	List of members 1 item	late 1940s
U DX217/4	Blank membership forms, with statement of objectives 4 items	late 1940s
U DX217/5	Correspondence (concerning meetings) Including single letters from Geoffrey Bing, M.P., Aneurau Bevan, M.P., Edith Summerskill, Herbert Morrison, C. Ede 11 items	26 Jul 1944- 14 Nov 1947
U DX217/6	Notices of meetings 39 items	1945-1947
U DX217/7	Tickets for meetings 6 items	mid 1940s
U DX217/8	Autograph speech/article on the work of Hull Fabian Society 1 item	late 1940s
U DX217/9	Autograph note: 'Further information concerning Councillor Stephen Kirby' 1 item	c.1947
U DX217/10	Press cuttings 10 items	mid 1940s
U DX217/11	Rules of the Fabian Society 1 item	1943
U DX217/12	Select list of Fabian publications 1 item	1940s