

**U DX333**

**North Hull Tribune Society**

**1957-1962**

**Historical Background:**

The Society was modelled on the existing West Hull Tribune Society and was formed shortly after the Hungary Uprising was crushed in 1956. It undertook no political activities and did not consider itself to be a pressure group in any sense. It sought to provide a forum for members of the Labour movement locally to discuss contentious or un-settled issues including Clause 4 and unilateralism in an attempt to encourage the exchange of ideas and opinions. Its membership card stated that it was "Debating and propagandist society - open to all Socialists and provides an opportunity for members of the Labour movement to discuss and debate political and social problems and policies".

The Society remained independent from the Left Clubs movement although it was often treated as such. In 1960 the Society were asked to affiliate with the Left Clubs movement, a move that was rejected by the Society's Committee.

Finance remained a key issue as the Society needed to raise funds to pay for speakers expenses, many of whom travelled to Hull from London. This was achieved through collecting tins at its meetings, by charging an annual membership fee and through fundraising efforts like jumble sales and selling literature for other groups.

Jack Foord was President (1959-1962), John Saville was Chairman (1959-1962), Kevin McNamara was Secretary (1957-1958).

**Description:**

Small collection of material relating to the North Hull Tribune Society

**Arrangement:**

U DX333/1 Record Books  
U DX333/2 Secretary's Out file  
U DX333/3 Secretary's In file

**Extent:** 16 items

**Related material:**

Papers of John Saville [Ref U DJS]  
Papers of J. Kevin McNamara MP [Ref U DMC]

**Access conditions:**

Some of the records in this collection contain sensitive personal information. In accordance with data protection legislation, records containing sensitive personal information are not available for public inspection for 75 years if the information relates to adults, or 100 years if the information relates to children. In some circumstances access may be granted for research purposes. To request access or for further information please contact [archives@hull.ac.uk](mailto:archives@hull.ac.uk).

Access to all other material will be granted to any accredited reader.

<b>U DX333/1</b>	<b>Record Books</b> <b>3 items</b>	<b>1959-1961</b>
U DX333/1/1	Committee Minute Book Includes details of meetings, organising speakers and attempts to increase the profile of the Society 1 volume	4 Aug 1959- 11 Jul 1961
U DX333/1/2	Correspondence and Expenditure record book Small notebook containing details of expenditure - principally stamps for letters sent, duplication of publicity material or for publicity expenses 1 item	1 Nov 1959- 8 Mar 1961
U DX333/1/3	Secretary's rough notebook Includes rough minutes, correspondence, statistics etc 1 item	Oct 1959- c.1961
<b>DX333/2</b>	<b>Secretary's Out file</b> <b>Multi-part file used by the Secretary, contents removed as the file was in bad condition and material has been loosely arranged into broad topics. Much of the material is undated.</b> <b>4 files</b>	<b>1959-1962</b>
U DX333/2/1	Committee and Other Groups Includes 'North Hull Tribune Society - Notes to Secretary' relating to the history of the Society, Aims, its administrative details etc (c1961); list of progressive groups in Hull with contact details; list of Committee members for 1960-61; [University] Socialist Society Committee (1960); Hull University Marxist Society Officers and Committee (1960); List of National Council of Labour Colleges; typescript list of trade unions addresses with a printed list (Jan 1959) of Trade Unions including the number of members they had produced by 'The Economic League' it also includes some notes about Union funding; List of Labour Party Secretaries (Jan 1960) and Hull Labour Councillors. 1 file	c.1959- Feb 1961

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U DX333/2/2	<p>Membership Various mailing and membership lists of the Society including members of the University CND branch 1 file</p> <p><b>This item contains personal sensitive information and is not available for public inspection for 75 years until Jan 2036. This is in accordance with data protection legislation. If you have a query about access to this record please contact <a href="mailto:archives@hull.ac.uk">archives@hull.ac.uk</a>.</b></p>	1959-1960
U DX333/2/3	<p>Events Some items of correspondence about events, typescript circulars relating to forthcoming open meetings (not Committee meetings). Including printed membership cards for 1959-1962 detailing its officers and its meetings 1 file</p>	1959- Oct 1962
U DX333/2/4	<p>Speakers Lists Includes 'New Left speaker list' (c1959-1962); list sent to other local organisations highlighting topics that members of the Society could speak about; responses to an appeal to identify individuals willing to speak at local labour ward and trade union branch meetings; 'Northern Left Clubs - speaker list' typescript list. 1 file</p>	c.1959-Nov 1960
U DX333/3	<p><b>Secretary's In file</b> <b>A further file of mixed paperwork, thought to be used by the Secretary. The material has been loosely arranged into broad topics. Much of the material is undated.</b> <b>4 files and 5 items</b></p>	<b>1957-1961</b>
U DX333/3/1	<p>'Labour's Call' Bulletin of the Socialist Union of Central-Eastern Europe. Monthly bulletins 5 items</p>	Jan- May 1961

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- U DX333/3/2 North Hull Tribute Society Questionnaire c.1960  
Questionnaire to identify age, gender, occupation, political party and trade union membership, membership of other groups, whether they supported the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament from those attending a meeting. Contains 49 completed questionnaires  
1 file
- This item contains personal sensitive information and is not available for public inspection for 75 years until Jan 2036. This is in accordance with data protection legislation. If you have a query about access to this record please contact [archives@hull.ac.uk](mailto:archives@hull.ac.uk).**
- U DX333/3/3 Committee minutes c.1958-c.1959  
Loose papers including some typescript agendas, minutes including the 1958 AGM. Also includes an annotated copy of the draft constitution  
1 file
- U DX333/3/4 Secretary's correspondence Nov 1957-  
Correspondence to/from the Secretary Chris Otley Nov 1960  
relating to meetings and approaches to individuals to speak at the Society's meetings  
1 file
- U DX333/3/5 Left Clubs Movement c.1959-  
Correspondence and circulars for Left Club Oct 1960  
Secretaries including a weekend school to be held at Wortley Hall near Sheffield; typescript list of venues for conferences and meetings; printed poster for CND demonstration in Scarborough (3 Jul 1960). Includes a letter to John Robottom (Left Clubs, Northern Regional Secretary) about the Society's decision not to affiliate with the Left Clubs Movement. Printed pamphlet 'The Great Debate Begins' (Oct 1960) produced by the Left Clubs Committee and the New Left Review to discuss Labour's defence policy.  
1 file