

**U DX374**

**Items relating to Annie Speak**

**1916-1924**

**Biographical Background:**

Annie Speak was born in 1902 to Ellen and Charles with the family living at Beech Avenue, Convent Lane and then subsequently at Longden Street and Paisley Street. In 1916 Annie left school at the age of 14 (see U DX374/1) to work for Smith and Nephew producing sterile dressings for the war. It is believed that after the war she then secured a job at Needlers as a sweet girl in the packing department. Annie married Harry Butterfield in November 1924 six months after the death of her mother Ellen and as was the tradition at that time she was presented with a silver plated pedestal fruit dish.

Annie died in 1969.

**Custodial history:**

Deposited by Valerie Shrubbs who was Annie's grand-daughter

**Description:**

Small collection of material relating to Annie Speak including a press cutting and photograph relating to Needlers where she worked and a certified copy of her birth certificate used as proof for age as required by the Factory and Workshop Act of 1901. Also includes photograph portraits of Annie, her mother and her husband and a photograph of the silver plater presented to Annie by Needlers on her marriage.

**Extent:** 11 items

**Related material:**

Records of Needlers Ltd., 1863-1993 [Ref U DNE]

Needlers Ltd, Chocolate Makers and Confectioners, 1913-1954 [Ref U DX339]

**Access conditions:**

Access will be granted to any accredited reader

U DX374/1

Certified copy of an entry of birth  
Certified copy of the birth certificate as proof of her age under Section 134 of the Factory and Workshop Act of 1901 to be exempted from school attendance.

8-9 Jun 1916

Biographical notes relating to Annie's early life in Hull researched by her grand-daughter.  
2 items

Hull History Centre: Items relating to Annie Speak

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| U DX374/2 | <p>A Romance of Local Industry with the 'sweet girls' of Hull by Robin Adair</p> <p>Newspaper article from 'The Hull Times' provides a detailed description of the health and employment side of the factory and the various sports and social activities of the staff including its choirs, drama and its annual sports and carnival with two pictures of the workers. With a typed transcript of the article.</p> <p>This item is in a poor condition - a photocopy will be produced instead of the original or view 'The Hull Times' on microfilm at the History Centre.</p> <p>2 items</p> | 29 Jul 1922 |
| U DX374/3 | <p>Needlers 'Sweetie Girls'</p> <p>Photograph shows group of female staff (the Needlers 'Sweetie Girls'). Believed to be the packing room at Needlers it shows a large number of female workers all wearing white coats and hats with hundreds of jars of sweets in the foreground. Annie Speak is on the left hand table, on the right hand side 3rd from the front. The group seems very similiar to the photographs which appear with the 'Hull Times' article (see U DX374/2)</p> <p>1 item</p>  | c1922       |
| U DX374/4 | <p>Portraits</p> <p>Photographic portraits of Ellen and Annie Speak and Harry Butterfield and the wedding of Annie and Harry (in Novermber 1924) taken by J J Payne of 106 Anlaby Road, Hull.</p> <p>Also a photograph and notes relating to a silver plated pedestal fruit dish presented to Annie Speak on her wedding in 1924.</p> <p>5 items</p>   | c1924       |
| U DX374/5 | <p>Christmas card</p> <p>Decorated card with printed verse and message it inclues a small photograph of Annie Speak sitting at a desk.</p> <p>1 item</p>   | 1923        |