

Cataloguing Progress

With such a strengthened team of archivists, cataloguing progress has been steady and very productive.

We are pleased to report that the following collections are now completely catalogued and available for use:

- Papers of David Medd (b. 1917) and Mary Medd (1907-2005)
- Papers of Cynthia Reynolds (b.1928)
- Records of the Girls Day School Trust (1843-2006)
- Papers of Duncan Taylor
- Papers of Kate Myers
- Papers of Bernard Holloway (1918-1995)
- Papers of Martin Lightfoot (1942-1999)
- Records of the Schools Curriculum Council
- Records of the Philosophy of Education Society

The following collections are being catalogued at present:

- Papers of Gene Adams
- Papers of Brian Simon
- Records of the World Education Fellowship

We are also undertaking a long-overdue appraisal of the Institutional Archive, which currently runs to some 2,500 boxes of material. This work entails looking at every file and assessing it for historical or evidential value, with an aim to creating a full catalogue of the archive within two years. We are cataloguing full series as they appear.

The first major cataloguing project to come out of this will be the papers of the Collegiate Division, c1949-1983, which co-ordinated work with associated teacher training colleges in the London area.

New Archives

We have taken in several completely new collections during the past year.

Firstly, we have the papers of Amelia Fysh, Headmistress of Beech Green Nursery School, 1956-1973, mainly relating to the integration of disabled children into the school and her research on the importance of art in child development. This collection features a wealth of photographs showing the school and its pupils, as well as numerous examples of art work.

We have also recently acquired the Development Education Association (DEA) archive. The National Association of Development Education Centres (NADEC) was formed as a network of local centres in the early 1980s, with a core staff of 2-3 people. In the 1980s NADEC established a Joint Agencies Network (JAG) which was a youth work network. Later, at the end of the decade the Inter Agency Committee for Development Education, an informal network of development NGOs engaged in development education, was set up. In 1993, NADEC became subsumed within the Development Education Association

(DEA). After the 1993 launch a Council (essentially a Board of Trustees) and various Sub Committees were set up. This archive contains all sorts of documentation from minutes of meetings to project papers and annual conference files.

Another important accession is the records of the Education in Human Rights Network which was established in January 1987 to 'enable and encourage communication between people working in a variety of educational settings in promoting an awareness and understanding of human rights'. The Network acted as a channel for communication between organisations and those people working in education, especially teacher education.

Lastly, we are also beginning to acquire a National Handwriting Collection from Rosemary Sassoon. Rosemary was trained as a designer and scribe but later developed methods of teaching lettering before moving to handwriting research. Her collection should provide researchers with an in-depth understanding of changes in the teaching of handwriting styles over the last few decades.

GDST exhibition

Our current foyer exhibition is material from the Girls' Day School Trust Archive, which we have recently finished cataloguing.

From now on we aim to have three exhibitions per year, based on material from our Special Collections and Archives. This has proved an excellent way of stimulating interest in our less visible collections.



Not yet a Friend?

The Friends support the future development of the Newsam Library and Archives as a unique resource for research in education, and especially its role in preserving the UK's educational heritage by acting as a national centre for archives and special collections.

To join the Friends, contact Rebecca Webster, Assistant Archivist, Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1H 0AL.

Tel: 020 7911 5483
email: rebecca.webster@ioe.ac.uk

THE FRIENDS newsletter

Staff News

We are pleased to welcome Becky Webster, our new Deputy Archivist, who replaced Natalie Zara in June 2008. Becky comes to us from the London School of Economics, where she was working on an externally-funded project to catalogue political papers.

We are also delighted that Katie Mooney, who joined us in December 2006 is now a permanent member of archive staff.

This means that we now have three members of archive staff and are making sterling progress in all areas of the archive service workload.



A wintery scene in post-war Germany - see p3 for news of an exciting project using the Mimi Hatton Papers.

Friends AGM 2009

This year's Annual General Meeting of the Friends of the Newsam Library and Archives will be held at 2pm on Tuesday 24th February, at 23-29 Emerald St, where the Library and Archives have a store and work area. Full details will be sent separately. All members are welcome to attend.

If you wish to reserve a place now, please do so by contacting Becky Webster – by post addressed to the Institute Archives; by telephone to 0207 911 5483; or by email to rebecca.webster@ioe.ac.uk.

Editorial

I feel that our long suffering members are due an apology and explanation for the long interval since the last newsletter.

About eighteen months ago, the Institute adopted a new corporate style, and it became necessary to redesign all our publications. Our designers were extremely helpful, but inevitably, the new look is more complex and sophisticated than the homegrown version we were using before. I'm afraid this newsletter

sank to the bottom of the list of new design projects which I had to deal with.

When the new design arrived, it required a some trouble-shooting and quite a steep learning curve for me to use it.

I think we've got there at last!! I hope you will all agree that the effort was worthwhile, and this issue is looking good - as well as somehow having space for more news!

In this issue

- Papers of the Forest School Camps
- New Archives
- Additions to Special Collections
- Cataloguing progress
- Learning with museums and archives

Featured Collections:

Papers of the Forest School Camps

The Institute of Education houses the records of the Forest School Camps, which have now been completely catalogued.

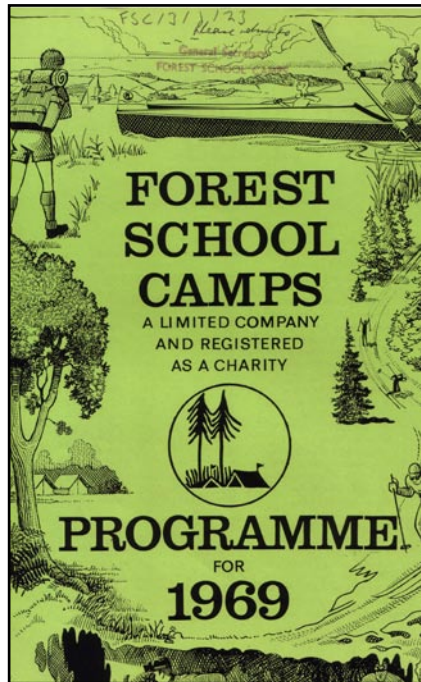
The Forest School Camps were formed in the tradition of the original Forest School which dated from 1929 until World War Two. Ernest Westlake, co-founder of the Order of Woodcraft Chivalry, purchased a site on which to build a Quaker-influence Forest School in Godshill, Hampshire. When he died before he could realise his plans, his son, Aubrey, set up the school, though his first attempt at running the school in 1929 was disastrous as all four of the pupils contracted scarlet fever and the school was forced to close! A year later Aubrey appointed Cuthbert Rutter as Headmaster and the school re-opened.

The Forest School was a progressive school in which children went on summer holiday camping hikes and learnt about survival skills and the environment. The school moved to Whitwell Hall, Norfolk, in 1938 but the Hall was requisitioned by the military in 1940 and, despite attempts, was never reopened.

The talks about reopening the school led to a reunion camp at the Hall, organised by Arthur Cobb and run by John Glaister. This camp had around 30 children and proved to be such a success that further camps were organised in 1948 and 1949. The ensuing two-week camps had 'lodges' accommodating 60 children between the ages of 6.5 and 17. Although sleeping arrangements and activities were age appropriate, eating, the morning rally and evening entertainments were done as a single unit. Children learned many skills including cooking, and woodwork, and, were taught "...to know the



Trailseekers crossing a stream on a hike, 1970



Forest School Camps Programme, 1969

world, to submit to the world and to change the world" (Cobb, c1953). The attainment of independence was the most important achievement. Over time the Forest School Camps became a Registered Charity and a Company Limited by Guarantee whose purpose is the promotion of holidays and outdoor activities for children and young people.

Forest School, and the subsequent camps, were directly based on the Order of Woodcraft Chivalry, established after World War One. Woodcraft aimed to "...create a Forest School where children might have a continuous education in natural surroundings", and Forest School emulated this. Furthermore, at Forest School the children were organised into the same Woodcraft age-groups, referred to as "Elves, Woodlings, Trackers and Pathfinders" and subjected to Woodcraft tests and trials.

Forest School was also heavily influenced by progressive education. At the Forest School each child was treated individually and adults were there to supervise or provide guidance, rather than as authoritative figures. It operated "very much as a large family", in which "...the children were guided by the group feeling of the school as a whole" (Hedger, 1963), and was organised

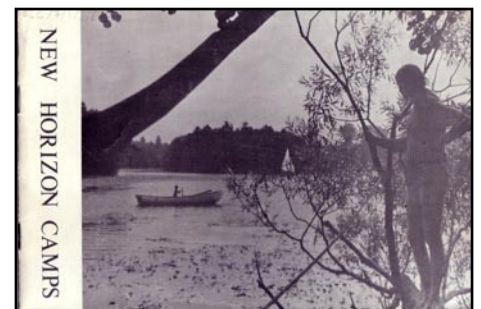
by typically progressive "democratic form of government" (Hedger, 1963). Later, the same ethos was applied to the camps.

The organisation gained huge strength in the 1950s when a number of left-wing people joined the staff and many teachers were also recruited. The basis of the camps is still the standing camps or lodges where children are taught camping and woodcraft skills but there are also a number of adventure-style camps involving canoeing, pot holing and camping abroad.

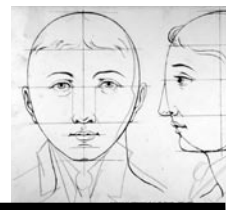
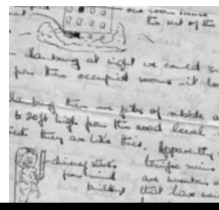
FSC was an unincorporated body until 1967 when it became a Company limited by guarantee and a Charity. In 1997 there were 34 camps advertised in the programme and over 1200 places for children and today the camps continue to be run entirely by volunteers.

The FSC archive consists of the administrative, financial and committee papers and photographs of the Forest School Camps including minutes of Council meetings, 1953-1989; papers of various committees, 1950-2003; constitution papers and annual reports, 1965-1996, various publications (including New Horizon School Camps, 1962-1977; Newsletter, 1954-1976; Pine Cone New Series, 1986 and 1997-2003; Org 4, 1997-2003; Magazine, 1964-1986; and the Annual Programme, 1948-2001); camp logs, reports and diaries, 1935-1996; photographs, 1962-1975; interview tapes, 1997; interview transcripts, 1997; 'Our Story' and related papers, 1998-2001; songbooks and dance manuals, 1970s; catering and recipes, 1965-1985; and, guidelines for staff and camp chiefs, 1955-1986.

This fascinating collection allows the researcher to learn about the principles un-



New Horizons Camps Programme, 1970



that day.
 Tues. 12th April.

Due to a shortage of various provisions we made up some unusual recipes for breakfast such as porridge oats with watered down milk and Apricot jam. Perhaps the best one was a cornflakes, egg, marmalade and apricot jam sandwich. We were off at 10.00 am and had one portage at Oakley road bridge, before stopping at Clapham to replenish our stocks and to have lunch.

In the afternoon we only covered a few miles as we wanted to stop early. But late was against us. We had a quick portage at Bromham bridge but tried 4 times to find a campsite & crown it all when we found the site (map ref. 014512) one Steve and I have capsized their canoe in getting out so some time was lost reboating.

River Ouse Canoe Journey log

derpinning the original school and the later organisation; the thoughts of those people involved in the camps – both children and adults alike; links to other allied movements; the organisation of the camps from catering and entertainment to financial and administrative; the history of the camps over time; and, the importance of the camps in the later 20th century.

Additions to Special Collections

The Department of Children, Schools and Families has continued to pass on to us some of their older materials, with a view to making them more accessible for research.

Last year, as we reported at the last AGM, we received their examination papers and syllabuses collection, comprising materials from all the major exam boards for almost the whole of the twentieth century – a far more complete set than our own. This has already been in demand.

More recent deposits include a range of early official publications, including runs of various Board of Education lists of elementary and secondary schools, special schools, and colleges. There are also extensive sets of early Science and Art Department examination papers and reports, and teacher education examinations, reports and pass lists.

Another extremely interesting set of volumes includes the annual reports of a range of educational organisations. The most significant are those of the British and Foreign Schools Society from 1863-1964, and a rather less complete set of annual reports from the National Society for Promoting Religious Education, including the first report from 1812, and a range of volumes from 1866 through to 1938.

In addition there are a number of early monographs, supplementing those already in our History of Education Collection. They include the histories of a number of individual schools and colleges, as well as more general works on education.

All of these contribute to the range and depth of our historical holdings - now the challenge is to get all our new materials catalogued!

Learning with Museums and Archives

The Archives recently hosted two B.Ed. students from Roehampton University on a week's placement sponsored by MLA London, the strategic development agency for museums, libraries and archives in London. The students had to use at least two objects from our collections to create a cross curricular learning activity aimed at primary school children.

They designed an extended Key Stage 2 project based upon the papers of Mimi Hatton, a teacher who taught in schools for children of British service personnel stationed in Germany after World War II. The pupils would trace Mimi

Hatton's journey on a map using extracts from her memoirs looking at her teaching experiences in Britain during World War II, her processing experience before embarkation to Germany, her journey to Germany, and her teaching experiences in Germany. The map exercise would be joined by other cross-curricular activities, including creative writing; questioning activities, such as

empathising with evacuated children and looking at the relationships between British and German citizens; creative dance; and creating their own identity cards based on Mimi Hatton's card from the collection. The students also identified how our collections could be used to create resource packs suitable for primary school children.

This is the first time the Archives have been involved in the project, which is in its third year, and we are planning to continue to offer a placement in the future to develop our connections with teachers and encourage them to use original sources in their work.

The collage contains three main documents:

- Top Left:** A German address card for Miss Mimi Olga Hatton, B.F.E.G., Asst. Commissioner's Office, Oldenburg. It includes her address in London, N.W.5, and a date stamp of 31 August 1952.
- Top Right:** A circular stamp from the Personnel Section of the British High Commissioner's Office in Oldenburg, featuring a portrait of a woman.
- Bottom:** A German official letter (Anzeigeblatt) addressed to the British High Commissioner in Oldenburg, dated 31 August 1952. The letter is signed by Brian H. Johnston, the British High Commissioner.