

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS NEWS

May 2007

NOW AVAILABLE TO READERS!

Peace Studies Pioneer: The Adam Curle Collection

We have just catalogued a new Special Collection of books, pamphlets and journal articles by Professor Adam Curle. Professor Curle, who died in September 2006, was the first Professor of Peace Studies at the University of Bradford. The collection reflects his commitment to peace making and peace education. There are also works on educational planning, especially in Pakistan, where Professor Curle was a government advisor in the 1950s. This collection complements Professor Curle's Archive, also in Special Collections and catalogued in 2006.

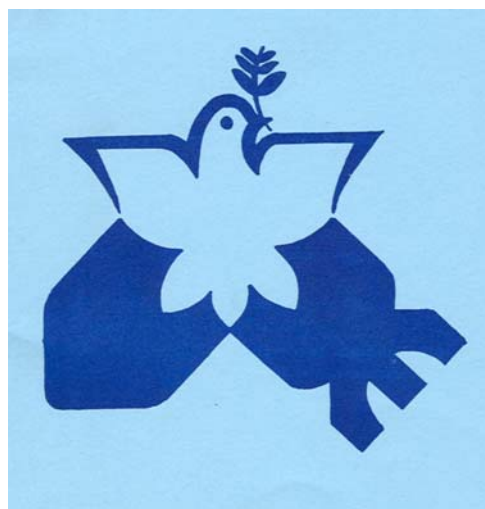
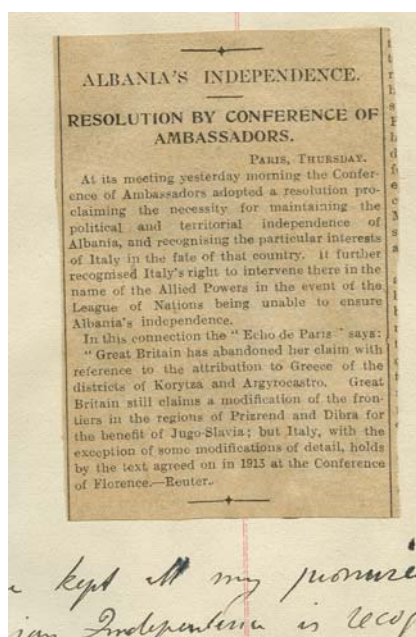


Image: symbol from an early Peace Studies prospectus.

Curle Collection web page: <http://www.brad.ac.uk/library/special/curle.php>



Albanian Adventure: The Edith Durham Balkan Collection

Two scrapbooks of press cuttings and other documents about Yugoslavia and Albania, compiled by writer and Balkan traveller, Mary Edith Durham, during her time as Secretary of the Anglo-Albanian Society. Durham championed the independence of the Albanian people and her strong opinions are revealed in her annotations in the scrapbooks.

Durham Collection web page:

<http://www.brad.ac.uk/library/special/durham.php>

MAPS IN MAY

The Elizabeth and Arthur Raistrick Archive is the Archives Hub Collection of the Month for May 2007, part of a feature highlighting archives on mapmaking:

<http://www.archiveshub.ac.uk/may07.shtml>

The Archives Hub is a gateway to information about the incredible variety of archives held by universities in the UK and is open to all.

The Raistrick Archive includes over a thousand maps and plans, mostly of the Yorkshire Dales, many created or annotated by Dr Raistrick. He also collected 18th and 19th century maps of the areas that interested him, three of which are featured on the Hub page.

Raistrick Archive web page: <http://www.brad.ac.uk/library/special/raistrick.php>

Image: detail from plan of field areas in Low Green Field, Langstrothdale, North Yorkshire, by Sam Swire, mid 19th century.



CARING FOR THE COLLECTIONS: DIGITAL CARE

Special Collections at Bradford, like many other archives, now collects much material in digital form. Often this material is “born digital” (like this digital photograph of the University’s 40th birthday cake, part of the University Archive).



Digital material is harder to care for than paper. Good quality paper can survive for many years, but issues such as hardware and software changes, data corruption and file structure can make it difficult to access digital files even a few years after they were produced. Ways of preserving this material include making multiple copies, copying to new formats, migrating to new software and even emulating an obsolete system on a newer one. We are just beginning to explore what is needed, but we hope that, by taking the right actions now, we will still be able to see the virtual cake at our 50th birthday and beyond!

“ART AND ARCHIVES”: CELEBRATING TED EDWARDS

We hope some of you were able to visit “Art and Archives”, the display in Gallery II in December 2006, which used books, photographs and documents from Special Collections and artworks from the University’s permanent collection to reflect the work and ideas of “Ted” Edwards, the University’s first Vice-Chancellor. The influence of Dr Edwards on the University cannot be overstated: he created our unique ethos, the practical application of knowledge to human welfare. Special Collections recently received his Archive.

Image: Dr Edwards with Harold Wilson in 1966, at the installation of the latter as Chancellor of the University.



HAPPY RETIREMENT JOHN!



Dr John Horton, our University Librarian (Academic Services), Peace Studies Librarian and Yugoslav specialist, retired at the end of April 2007, having worked at the University for over 40 years!

Images: John at 1989 graduation ceremony with the actor Edward Petherbridge, and alongside Balkan Peace Park display, 2005.

Several of the Special Collections came to Bradford thanks to John. Since the appointment of Special Collections staff in 2000, he has worked with us to ensure the best possible service to our readers. We wish him all the best for the future and hope he will be able to join us at future Special Collections events.



COMING SOON: NEW DISPLAYS

On show soon in the J.B. Priestley Library:

- Radical Riding! Radical traditions in the West Riding: Luddites, Chartists, Labour and much more. Created to accompany a recent conference.
- RUSEES Anniversary. Display to mark the 40th anniversary of the Research Unit in South East European Studies, formerly the Yugoslav Studies Unit, including the history of the Unit and archives and rare books from the Balkan regions.

For further details of the above, and if you would like to be kept up to date with future e-newsletters, new collections, exhibitions and events, why not join the Special Collections mailing list:

<http://www.brad.ac.uk/library/special/maillinglist.php>

We won't overwhelm you with mailings (half a dozen a year or so) and we won't pass your details on to anyone.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Special Collections at the University of Bradford: nearly a kilometre of rare books and archives, from 17th-century printed books to modern University papers, and even J.B. Priestley's pipes. We are open to all: if you'd like to visit, please contact us to arrange an appointment.

Image: Special Collections Librarian, Alison Cullingford, with part of the "Art and Archives" exhibition.



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