

## SPECIAL COLLECTIONS NEWS

### Spring 2008

#### ALDERMASTON ANNIVERSARY

In 1957-58, outrage at British H-bomb testing caused a storm of protest, shown in the first Aldermaston march, Easter 1958, from London to the Aldermaston Atomic Weapons Research Establishment, organised by the Direct Action Committee against Nuclear War, and in the founding of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. The Campaign developed as a result of overwhelming public response to an article by J.B. Priestley condemning British nuclear testing. He and archaeologist

Jacquetta Hawkes, his wife, were to play key roles in the early years of the Campaign.



The nuclear disarmament symbol (often known as the peace sign) is a universally recognised and powerful design. It was created by artist Gerald Holtom for the first Aldermaston March. The original drawings were donated by Hugh Brock, editor of Peace News, to Commonwealth Library, at the University of Bradford. Facsimiles are on show in Commonwealth Library and

at the Peace Museum, Bradford.

Article by Andrew Rigby about the creation of the design:

<http://www.peacenews.info/issues/2448/244827.html>

The archives of J.B. Priestley and Jacquetta Hawkes:

<http://www.bradford.ac.uk/library/special/priestley.php>

<http://www.bradford.ac.uk/library/special/hawkes.php>

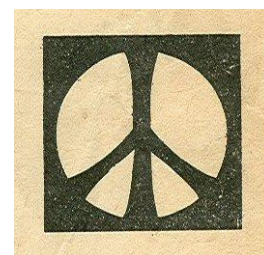
and an article about their involvement with CND:

<http://www.brad.ac.uk/acad/peace/newsletters/archive/News38.pdf>

Commonweal Archives include many key resources for the period, particularly the archives of the Direct Action Committee, Hugh Brock, Peace News, and the papers of author Richard Taylor.

<http://www.bradford.ac.uk/library/special/cwlarchives.php>

Images: selection of symbols from documents in Commonwealth Archives.



## “THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING ALBANY”

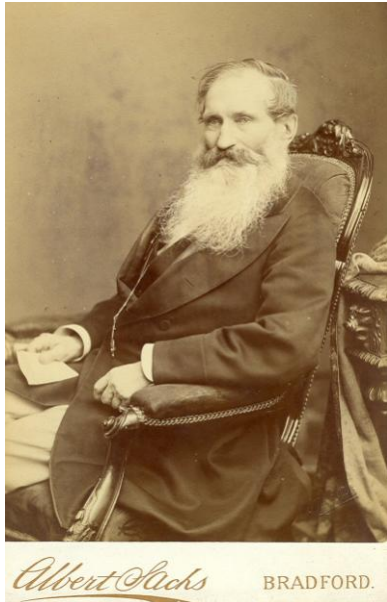
In 1958, the Priestleys also joined the debate following the Wolfenden Report, which recommended that homosexual behaviour between consenting adults in private should no longer be a criminal offence. Jacquetta Hawkes was an original member of the Homosexual Law Reform Society, founded in May 1958. Committee meetings were sometimes held at the Priestleys’ flat, B4 Albany, hence the use of the name for the complementary charity, the Albany Trust. The Hawkes Archive includes correspondence and meeting minutes relating to Jacquetta’s work with both organisations.

The Albany Trust is celebrating 50 years working “to improve the social conditions necessary for healthy psychosexual development” with a one day conference, “The Importance of being Albany”, on 30 May 2008 at the London School of Economics, home to archives of the HLRC and the Trust. Christine Finn, Honorary Fellow of the University of Bradford, will be talking about Jacquetta’s involvement with the Trust.

Albany Trust web site, including conference details: <http://www.albanytrust.org>

London School of Economics Archives: <http://www.lse.ac.uk/library/archive>

## NEW ON THE WEB: IMPROVED HOLDEN HANDLIST



The Papers of Sir Isaac Holden and his family are among the most popular Special Collections. Sir Isaac was a West Riding inventor and successful industrialist who became a Member of Parliament. The Papers are rich in detail of the wool industry and social customs of the time and include information about the Holden factories in France and about Sir Isaac’s home, Oakworth House in Keighley. A new and (we hope) more user-friendly edition of the Holden Papers handlist is now available. It includes some letters and ephemera received recently.

Image: Isaac Holden.

<http://www.bradford.ac.uk/library/special/holden.php>

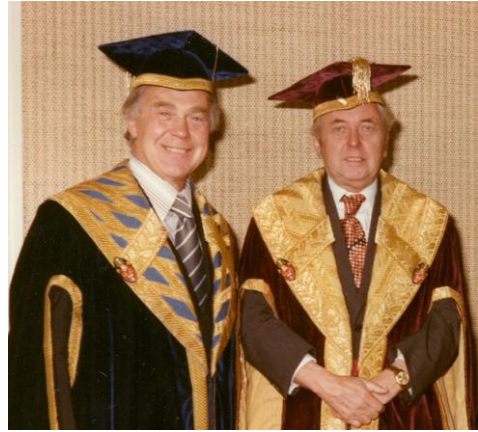
## NEW LOOK WEB

The Special Collections web pages were redesigned in autumn 2007. In particular, we added better navigation around the Special Collections site and many more images. We’ll be continuing to update the pages in spring and summer 2008, so please let us know what you think of them.

<http://www.bradford.ac.uk/library/special>

## “RED TED’S” PAPERS CATALOGUED

Just catalogued: the Archive of Dr E.G. (Ted) Edwards, first Vice-Chancellor of the University of Bradford. Politically radical, Ted Edwards pioneered student involvement in university governance, interdisciplinary approaches to teaching and strong social engagement by a University. The archive also includes his writings on higher education themes e.g. “Higher education for everyone” (Spokesman, 1982), and his involvement in local peace movements.



<http://www.bradford.ac.uk/library/special/edwards.php>

Image: Ted Edwards with Harold Wilson, first chancellor of the University, ca. 1976.

## PORTRAITS UNVEILED

Several of the archives in Special Collections at Bradford include photographs or paintings of individuals, including the Priestleys, Holdens and people with links to the University: some appear in this newsletter. We have sent details to “Understanding British Portraits”, a new project mapping the rich variety of portraits in museum, library, archive and private collections in the UK. We will continue to contribute to this as we catalogue more collections, especially the Commonwealth Archives, which include many images of peace activists.

<http://www.portraits.specialistnetwork.org.uk/>

## NEW ON THE WEB: YORKSHIRE MEMORIES

The Fred Robinson Butterfield Collection. Albums of photographs of the Dales and other parts of Yorkshire in the 1920s and 1930s, taken on cycling club days out. This image is of York.

<http://www.bradford.ac.uk/library/special/butterfield.php>



## SPECIAL COLLECTIONS BLOG

Special Collections now has a blog, to provide frequent updates on stories like those above, about exhibitions and events, new items in the collections, links and new publications. The RSS feed can keep you in touch with the latest posts.

<http://specialcollectionsbradford.wordpress.com/>

## HIDDEN GEMS AND PRETTY PICTURES

From June 2008, the Special Collections blog and web pages will include two regular new features:

- Collection of the Month: highlighting less well-known Special Collections.
- Image of the Month: seasonal, topical or just one we hope you will find interesting.

The “hidden gems” illustrated on this page are from “The Cabinet of Gems” by S. Batchelor. Knaresborough, 1840 (History of Science and Technology rare book collection).



## CARING FOR THE COLLECTIONS: THE DISASTER BOX

One of the jobs of Special Collections staff is to manage library response to “disasters”, incidents which can affect books or other aspects of the library service. Here is one of our six “disaster boxes”, which contain useful equipment for mopping up and salvaging wet books after a water leak or flood.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

Special Collections at the University of Bradford: nearly a kilometre of rare books and archives. We are open to all: please contact us to arrange an appointment.

Special Collections

J.B. Priestley Library

University of Bradford. BD7 1DP.

Tel: +44 (0) 1274 235256

Fax: +44 (0) 1274 233398

E-mail: [special-collections@bradford.ac.uk](mailto:special-collections@bradford.ac.uk)

Web site: <http://www.brad.ac.uk/library/special>

We welcome feedback about this newsletter or any other aspect of our service. Text by Alison Cullingford. Digital photography and images by John Brooker. Text and images © University of Bradford. Not to be reproduced without permission.

