

### briefing paper



## Liberal History

### Overview of the collection

The Archives Division at LSE is an essential resource for Liberal historians. Collections relate to both the Liberal Party and the successor to the Liberal Party and the Social Democratic Party the Liberal Democrats and include papers from prominent politicians, central parties and Liberal organisations. Some of the highlights of the holdings are listed below.

## Archive Collections

The LSE Archives Division is the central repository for the following Liberal collections:

### Politicians and Liberal Activists

- Paddy Ashdown (1941-)
- Brian Ashmore (fl 1945-1997)
- Ludwig Bamberger (1823-1899)
- William Beveridge (1879-1963)
- Leonard Henry Courtney (1832-1918)
- Mark Cummins
- Jean Henderson (1900-1997)
- Donald McIntosh Johnson (1903-1978)
- Frances Josephy (1900-1984)
- Andrew McFadyean (1887-1974)
- Violet Rosa Markham (1872-1959)
- Michael Meadowcroft (1942-)
- Juliet Evangeline Rhys Williams (1898-1964)
- Beatrice Seear (1913-1997)
- David Steel (1938-)
- David Vasmer (fl 1970-)
- Richard Wainwright (1918-2003)
- Graham Watson (1956-)

### Parties and Organisations

- Liberal Party (early c19th-1988)
- Liberal Party (1989-)
- Liberal Movement (1988-)
- Liberal Democrats (1988-)
- Rainbow Circle (1894-1966)
- Centre for Reform (1998-)



Logo of the Social and Liberal Democrats, 1987-1989

### Other Collections

The archive also contains a number of smaller collections relating to Liberal history in the Coll Misc series. A selection of these papers include:

- Henry Broadhurst
- James Bryce (1838-1922)
- Hubert William Culling Carr-Gomm (1877-1939)
- Frank Wallis Galton (1867-1952)
- Henry Fawcett (1833-1884)
- Charles Frederick Hutchinson (1850-1907)
- George McCrea (1860-1928)
- Dingle Mackintosh Foot (1905-1978)
- William Pember Reeves (1857-1932)
- Richard Potter (1778-1842)
- Arthur James Sherwell (1863-1942)

### Election campaign literature

We hold over 15000 items of election campaign literature (particularly leaflets) from all major political parties, and many smaller parties, from across the United Kingdom, from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century onwards.

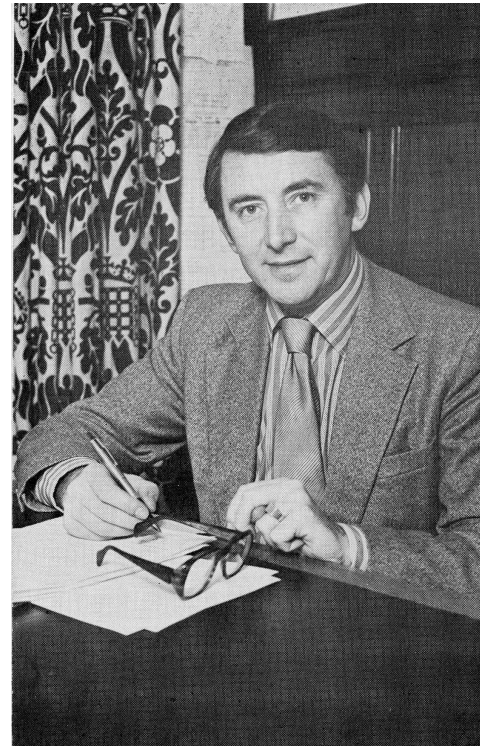
### Political Posters

We hold an interesting collection of political posters dating from c1892-1910 produced by the Conservative and Unionist Party, Labour Party, Liberal Party, Liberal Unionist Council and Tariff Reform League (Ref: COLL MISC 0519).

## Related papers

LSE also holds:

- Papers of Alistair Hetherington, Journalist (1919-1999) which includes interviews with Liberal Party leader Jo Grimond and other politicians regarding the Liberal Party
- Papers of the Federal Union, founded in 1938 to advance the cause of federal government among democratic states in order to achieve international peace, economic stability and civil rights, by means of research, debate and political activity. The archive also houses papers of the Federal Trust for Education and Research founded in 1945 on the initiative of William Beveridge to encourage the study of international relations and co-operation
- Papers of a number of key individuals and organisations relating to Labour history including the Fabian Society, the Independent Labour Party and Beatrice and Sidney Webb. For more information on these collections please see our briefing paper 'Labour History'
- The correspondence of John Stuart Mill and Helen Taylor regarding political and social issues including the Irish question and women's suffrage. We also have, in our rare books collection, publications by John Stuart Mill including his *Autobiography*, *Principles of Political Economy* and *On Liberty*. For further information on our rare book collection please see:  
[http://www.lse.ac.uk/library/archive/rare\\_books.htm](http://www.lse.ac.uk/library/archive/rare_books.htm)



David Steel, Liberal Party Leader (1976-1988)

## Finding Out More

Further information about the holdings of LSE Archives can be found on our website at:

[http://www.lse.ac.uk/library/archive/guide\\_to\\_holdings.htm](http://www.lse.ac.uk/library/archive/guide_to_holdings.htm)

The Archives Catalogue can be viewed at:

<http://archives.lse.ac.uk>

## Opening Hours

Monday to Thursday 10am - 8pm

Friday 10am - 5pm

Saturday 11am - 6pm (Term-time and Easter Vacation only)

## Contacting Us

For further information contact us at:

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[www.lse.ac.uk/library/archive](http://www.lse.ac.uk/library/archive)

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## Other resources

### The University of Liverpool Special Collections and Archives

<http://sca.lib.liv.ac.uk/collections/index.html>

Includes the archives of Lord David Owen covering his political career from his early Labour Party membership until his retirement as SDP MP for Plymouth Devonport

### University of Hull Archives

<http://www.hull.ac.uk/arc/>

Includes archive collections for politicians from all major parties including Liberals Eric Lubbock and Thomas Perronet Thompson

### Manchester Archives and Local Studies

<http://www.manchester.gov.uk/libraries/arlsl/>

Includes papers from Liberal organisations and individuals

### National Library of Scotland

<http://www.nls.uk/collections/manuscripts/archives.html>

Includes a number of collections relating to Scottish Liberal history, including the papers of former Liberal Party Leader Jo Grimond

### National Library of Wales

<http://www.llgc.org.uk/>

Includes the papers of prominent Welsh Liberal politicians