This User Guide provides a summary of records held at Tyne & Wear Archives relating to political life in the Tyne & Wear area.

Some records may have restrictions on access. Please enquire in advance about access to any unlisted collections.

CONSERVATIVE PARTY

Divisional parties

Wansbeck finance & executive committee minutes 1940-1948 [1633]

Constituency parties/associations


Newcastle Council Conservative Group minutes 1973-1981 [5364]

Newcastle Women's Branch annual meetings minutes 1921-1946, branch minutes 1919-1936, advisory committee minutes 1955-1966 [1579]

Sunderland, official handbook 1909 [238/35]

Ward parties

Arthurs Hill (later Wingrove), minutes 1966-1991 [5364]
Central minutes 1952-1961 [1633]
Monkseaton men's branch committee minutes 1951-1966 [1633]
Preston committee minutes 1923-1975, women's council committee minutes 1923-1936 [1633]
Tynemouth, Cullercoats and North Shields joint wards women's council minutes 1954-1984, branch minutes 1946-1984 [1633]
Walkerville women’s branch minutes 1949-1968 and committee minutes 1957-1970 [PO.CON3]

**Junior Imperial League**
Walkerville branch minutes 1928-1930 [PO.CON3]
Whitley Bay and Monkseaton branch minutes 1932-1939 [SX147]

**Young Britons**
North Shields branch minutes 1937-1939 [S.YB1]

**Young Conservatives**
Divisional committee minutes 1955-1962 [1579]
Bentinck minutes 1954-1959 [1579]
Whitley Bay & Monkseaton minutes 1958-1970 [1633]

**CO-OPERATIVE PARTY**

**Northern Section**
Annual reports 1950-1970 [2056]
Newcastle & Gateshead minutes 1983-1988 [2948]
North Eastern Society Council minutes 1971-2 [2056]

**Ward parties**

**LABOUR PARTY**

**Northern Regional Council**
Constitution, rules, standing orders, guide 1956-1980 [3885 unlisted]
Policy documents 1977 - 1978 [1777/3]
Northern Region Labour Women Rest Fund Committee minutes 1955-1980, accounts 1955-1978, newsletter 1930-1974 [2832; 3885 unlisted]
Tyne & Wear County

Divisional parties
Gateshead minutes 1991-1996 [3471 unlisted]
Houghton-le-Spring constitution and rules c1959;
Newcastle City records, including annual reports 1923,1924,1928, 1931-1973, minutes 1930-1957, delegate meetings minutes 1931-1940, executive committee minutes 1931-1939 [608 unlisted, 1317 unlisted]
North Tyneside Labour Group papers 1973-1975 [948]

Constituency parties
Blyth minutes 1983-1993 [3471 unlisted]
Gateshead West minutes and accounts 1931-1983 [3258 unlisted]
Jarrow rules and constitution 1966 [3885 unlisted]
Newcastle West minutes, election addresses, correspondence etc 1955-1980 [1334 unlisted], minutes 1964-1971 [1771]
Sunderland Borough minutes and accounts 1962-1966 [1298]
Sunderland South organisation committee minutes 1948-1966 [1298]
Tynemouth rules and constitution 1960 [3885 unlisted]

Ward parties
Benwell Branch Labour Party Minutes 1978-1983 [4252 unlisted]
Chopwell & Rowlands Gill minutes 1991-1997 [3471 unlisted]

Women's Sections
Colliery Ward, Sunderland minutes 1929-1942 [5083 unlisted]
Felling minutes 1939-1977 [2832 unlisted]
Newcastle minutes 1936-1955 [2832 unlisted]
Socialist International Women, rough minutes c1961 [3885 unlisted]
Sunderland Women's Federation photographs c1950s; Programme of Labour Women's Conference 1924; National Labour Women's Advisory Committee Statements 1971-1973 [2832; 3885 unlisted]

Young Socialists
Sunderland committee minutes 1966-1968 [1298]
Annual Conference Reports 1929-1969 [673/252-280]
LIBERAL PARTY

North Newcastle Liberal and Radical Association minutes 1918-1926 [200/6]

LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Newcastle, election publicity, policy documents and newscuttings 1990-2001 [DX1018]

SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Newcastle & Northern Region Committee minutes and financial records 1981-1992 [2922]

SOCIALIST LEAGUE

Gateshead branch executive committee minutes 1932-1936 [PO.SL1]

PERSONAL PAPERS

Gordon Adam MEP, 1973-1984 [1754, 1805, 1884, 2451, 3237 and 3728 unlisted]
Includes papers relating to constituency Parties - Wallsend, Hexham, Blyth Valley, Berwick, Morpeth, Tyne Bridge and Newcastle East

David Adams MP, 1901-1943 [DF.DA]
Mainly printed and press
Correspondence 1920s-1940s [DF.WKR]

Margaret Bondfield MP, 1873-1953
Candidate at Wallsend, election broadsheet 1931 [DX986/1]

Photographs and papers are held by the Parliamentary Archives

Grace Colman, Labour candidate at Tynemouth
Election addresses 1950-1951 [499]

Joseph Cowen MP, 1833-1937 [DF.COW]
A Foreign Affairs
Papers relating to revolutionary movements in Italy, Poland, Switzerland, Austria and Hungary, boarding of Polish-Hungarian refugees (including a list of Polish refugees on Tyneside with trades, present employment and addresses 1851 [A130] and minutes of the the Polish-Hungarian Refugee Committee, Newcastle 1851-1852 [A42]), the Russo-Turkish War, visits of Guiseppe Garibaldi and Louis [Lajos] Kossuth to Tyneside, Crimean War,
Newcastle on Tyne Foreign Affairs Committee (including cash book and minutes 1854-1856 [A247-248]), expulsion of French refugees from Jersey (including Victor Hugo), alleged plot to assassinate Napoleon III, protests against the Alien Bill, the Eastern Question, Kropotkin, Egypt, Sudan, South Africa etc. 1833-1932 (998 items)

B Home Affairs
Papers relating to disestablishment (particularly the British Anti-State Church Association, including minutes and accounts of Winlaton branch 1848 [B6-7]), republicanism, the Northern Co-operative Union (including minutes 1862-1864 [B41]) and Co-operative Congress, temperance, education, peace movement, work of Joseph Cowen sr, trade unions, parliamentary work, Ireland etc. 1846-1902 (416 items)

C Northern Reform Union
Papers (mainly correspondence) relating to parliamentary reform and meetings of the NRU; includes minutes 1857-1859 [C6], 1860 [C1174] and various lists of members; papers relating to the mass demonstration of the Northern Reform League on Newcastle Town Moor 1873; also includes material on the Garibaldi Fund 1857-1913 (1859 items)

D Local Affairs
Papers relating to Winlaton Literary and Scientific Society and Mechanics Institution, Blaydon and Stella Mechanics Institution, the "Tyne Tribune", the "Northern Tribune", Newcastle School Board, formation of College of Physical Science in Newcastle, Tyne Improvement, new Science and Art Schools, Newcastle, the "Newcastle Chronicle", Rutherford fountain, Tynemouth Trust medals for lifesaving, Blaydon Secondary School scholarships, Blaydon war memorial and other local matters, particularly copies of speeches given to local organisations and Winlaton and Blaydon 1847-1937 (537 items)

E Biography
Papers relating to Joseph Cowen sr and Joseph Cowen jr including copies of numerous newspaper obituaries and funeral reports 1856-1929 (448 items)

F Miscellaneous
Papers relating to Joseph Cowen sr's patent for improving the manufacture of retorts, notes and essays written at Edinburgh University 1844-, copies of letters written by Cowen, letters about speeches, papers of Colonel Joseph Cowen and Jane Cowen including the Cowen Training Home for disabled soldiers and sailors 1844-1934 (140 items)

Len Edmondson, trade unionist and Labour Party activist, 1912-2006
Personal and political papers 1940s-2006 [4707 unlisted]

Councillor John Foster, leader of North Tyneside Council, 1960's-1980's
Reports, working files and newspaper cuttings, mostly relating to North Tyneside [3822 unlisted]

William Lockey Harle, radical, 1801-1878
Correspondence and scrapbook of cuttings 1826-1878 [DF.HLE]

Ralph Milbanke Hudson MP, 1849-1938
Personal papers and correspondence relating to constituency work, Sunderland [DX467 summary list only]
Sir William Hutt MP, 1801-1882
Travel journals (with transcripts) of Sir William and Lady Hutt, including journeys to Italy, Vienna, France, Germany, Switzerland and Spain 1824-1872; commonplace books of Sir William Hutt 1850-1866; album of autographs, comprising letters to Sir William Hutt from well-known contemporary local and national figures 1860-1871, album of photographs and newscuttings 1863-1866 [DX985]
Letters from William Hutt to W H Brockett, 1850-1851 [DT.BEL/8/1-61]
[See also correspondence with W L Harle, DF.HLE]

Sir John Jarvis MP, 1876-1950
Papers relating to his work connected with relief for the unemployed of Jarrow 1934-1952 [G.EMP2]

Sir William Lawther, (Labour), 1919-1971
Former President of National Union of Mineworkers [1170]

Lady Sarah Melville, 1885-1974
Papers including letters, newspaper cuttings, etc. relating to Lady Sarah and her husband Sir James Melville MP. Also papers relating to their daughter, Mary Melville, 1910-1970s [DF.MEL]

T Dan Smith, Labour councillor, 1915-1993
Papers relating to political career and personal interests [DF.TDS summary list only]
Correspondence with Henry Parris 1971 [DX1278]

Eric Walker, Labour Party activist, Newcastle [DF.WKR]
Political and personal papers 1930s-c2000

Robert Spence Watson, correspondence with his daughter Mabel reflecting his activities as a Liberal politician 1884-1906 [213/150, 176, 184, 203-5, 221, 231-2, 239, 248, 263, 275, 278, 309]

Councillor Mrs D A Starkey (Co-op)
Papers relating to work on Newcastle City Council 1940-1976 [680; 697]

E M White, Conservative candidate at Wallsend
Election leaflets 1970 [DX749]

James Wilson of Cramer Dykes
Election address 1851 [DT.BEL/24]

John Wilson MP
Transcript of diary for 1903 [DX272/1]
ELECTION PUBLICITY AND CARTOONS

Posters relating to reform politics 1830-1851 [DX413/1/1-113]

Election posters and cartoons 1825-1906 [DX17/1; DX13; 967/1-8; 1074/93-94; 200; 520/1-8]

Newcastle local and bye-election elections scrap books 1883-1908 [205/9-12]

Newcastle (mainly Wingrove Ward) election flyers and publicity material, 1980s [5364]

Northumberland election publicity 1826 [14]

Posters, leaflets and election addresses, Sunderland (1900-1945), Jarrow (1923) and Houghton le Spring (1895-1945) Constituencies [874]

Cartoons relating to Longbenton political issues 1897, 1912 [1803/2/1-3]

Tynemouth elections 1916 - 1974 [3822 unlisted]

MISCELLANEOUS

Papers of John Brown, clerk to the Newcastle Magistrates relating to Chartism 1839-1840 [DF.JB]

Whittaker papers, concerning activities of women in Labour Party, 1924-1976 [3883 unlisted]

Newcastle upon Tyne Liberal Club
Minutes (including North Newcastle Liberal and Radical Association), annual reports, correspondence, accounts, membership records, scrapbooks, election material, 1879-1970 [200; 2260, 3198 unlisted – summary S.LIB]

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