

MS 1591 Papers of Paul Mackney, 1981 - 1992

CONTENTS

MS 1591	Introduction	2
	Glossary	4
MS 1591/A	Paul Mackney – Educator	5
MS 1591/A/1	Birmingham Trade Union Studies Centre	
5		
MS 1591/A/1/1	Birmingham TUSC Development	5
MS 1591/A/1/2	Birmingham TUSC Steering Committee	10
MS 1591/A/1/3	Race Equality and Education Post – 1992	10
MS 1591/B	Paul Mackney – Trades Unionist	11
MS 1591/B/1	NATFHE	11
MS 1591/B/1/1	‘Support Bridget Parsons’ Campaign	11
MS 1591/B/2	West Midlands Regional TUC	13
MS 1591/B/2/1	WMRTUC Representative on Birmingham and Solihull Area Manpower Board	13
MS 1591/B/3	Birmingham Trade Union Council	16
MS 1591/B/3/1	BTUC Council Meetings	16
MS 1591/B/3/2	BTUC Executive Committee Meetings	16
MS 1591/B/3/3	TURC Creation Sub-committee	17
MS 1591/B/3/4	TURC Formation	18
MS 1591/B/3/5	Report on National Justice for Mineworkers AGM	19
MS 1591/C	Paul Mackney – Campaigner	20
MS 1591/C/1	Campaigns against Injustice	20
MS 1591/C/1/1	CARF Campaign against Racism and Fascism	20
MS 1591/C/1/2	Tasleem Akhtar Memorial Committee	21
MS 1591/C/1/3	Campaigns in Birmingham and the West Midlands	23
MS 1591/C/1/4	Campaigns beyond the West Midlands	24
MS 1591/C/2	Environmental Campaigns	25
MS 1591/C/3	Political Activities	25
MS 1591/D	Paul Mackney – Personal Papers	26
MS 1591/D/1	‘Birmingham and the Miners’ Strike’ Book by P. Mackney	26
MS 1591/D/1/1	Description of Book	26
MS 1591/D/1/2	Diary used in researching book	
28		
MS 1591/D/1/3	Recorded Interviews for book	29
MS 1591/D/1/4	Transcripts of recorded interviews and ‘The Birmingham Occupation’ and ‘Nuneaton Support for the Miners’ Strike’	32
MS 1591/D/1/5	Notices & Correspondence regarding book	33
MS 1591/D/1/6	Contact Details for NUM officials, Women’s Groups etc	34
MS 1591/D/2	Banner Theatre	34
MS 1591/D/2/1	‘Saltley Gate’ Leaflet	34

MS 1591 Papers of Paul Mackney, 1981 - 1992

Administrative History

Born in 1950, Paul Mackney had a long involvement with politics and campaigning, from student politics through trades union activities and wider social and political campaigning. In 2005 Melanie Phillips described him in the Daily Mail as 'one of the key revolutionary socialist agitators in Britain', because of his prominent role in the anti-Iraq war movement and the Palestinian solidarity movement. This collection relates primarily to Mackney's time in Birmingham, where he was active in further education, trades union and political activities. Records are a mixture of personal papers and working copies of official documents received or created by Mackney through his involvement with a range of organisations and campaigns.

Mackney attended Christ's Hospital School in Horsham and then studied Politics at Exeter University where he joined the International Socialists. During this period, Mackney campaigned for claimants' unions and self-help organisations for the unemployed and he compiled a claimants' guide to the benefits system. After teaching English as a foreign language in Hamburg, he became a part-time lecturer of social studies at Poole Technical College.

Paul Mackney moved to Birmingham to take up a post at Hall Green Technical College [later South Birmingham College] in 1975 and joined the Birmingham International Socialists [IS]. He was one of a number of members in the city to be expelled by the IS and after a period with the Workers' League, Mackney joined the Labour Party.

Paul Mackney became an official of the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education [NATFHE]. He held a number of honorary and paid posts and became known as 'Deals on Wheels' for the number of college contract agreements he managed to broker. In 1997 Mackney became General Secretary of the Union, and was the first NATFHE General Secretary to be elected to the TUC General Council. However, Mackney's involvement in positions of influence in the trade union movement had begun through nomination to the Birmingham Trades Council in the 1970s, where he gained access to the management of the Birmingham Trades Council, as Vice-President and President. A prime mover in discussions to establish the Birmingham Trade Union Resource Centre [TURC], he sat on the sub-committee established by the Birmingham Trades Council to oversee the development and launch of TURC, later joining the TURC Management Committee. He also served on the management committee of the Youth Employment and Training Research Unit [YETRU] and prompted their eventual merger into one joint management committee.

In 1984 he chaired the Trades Council's Miners' Support Committee during the national miners' strike. Mackney later produced a dissertation about this committee as part of his studies for a Master's Degree in Industrial Relations at the University of Warwick. This formed the basis of his book 'Birmingham and the Miners' Strike: the Story of a Solidarity Movement' published in 1987.

Paul Mackney was also involved with campaigning in less formal ways, with Banner Theatre Company, CARF and BUMP (respectively the Campaign against Racism and Fascism and Birmingham Against Urban Motorway Plans).

A common thread in Mackney's career was a concern to campaign for social justice, across a range of issues. He gained a mandate through the trades union movement to serve on a number of bodies and lobbied hard on employment rights. He sought measures to mitigate the impact of mass unemployment. Mackney also strove to identify and tackle racism, sexism and other forms of discrimination, within the workplace and across society. In 1976 Mackney organised a vote of censure against the then President of the BTUC for having made racist comments. After he joined the BTUC Executive Council, Mackney worked with like minded members to promote progressive causes in social justice. Likewise, his positions on the TURC and YETRU management committees permitted him to lobby for and support such campaigns at home and abroad.

In 1983 Mackney represented the West Midlands Regional Trades Union Congress on the Birmingham and Solihull Area Management Board [AMB]. The AMB was an advisory body for the Manpower Services Commission and drew representatives of employers, Youth Training Scheme administrators and trades unions together. As well as a general concern with minimising the impact of unemployment and maximising the employment opportunities for young people, Mackney was keen to combat racial discrimination. This led him to prematurely release ethnic monitoring information which the Manpower Services Commission had presented to the AMB in confidence. This information revealed a serious under-representation of black trainees on YTS schemes and controversy raged both over the revelations and the manner in which they had been made public.

Paul Mackney became Head of Birmingham Trades Union Studies Centre at South Birmingham College in 1986. In 1992 he became Midlands Regional Official for NATFHE and was elected as General Secretary in 1997. Mackney then moved to London but maintained personal and professional links with Birmingham. In 2003 Mackney was re-elected unopposed as General Secretary. He was a prime mover in merger talks between NATFHE and the Association of University Teachers [AUT], with the combined University and Colleges Union [UCU] scheduled for summer 2006. Originally considered a strong contender to become General Secretary for UCU, he reluctantly stood aside from this contest for health reasons. [Whilst on holiday in Greece in 2005, Paul Mackney suffered a heart attack.]

Upon moving to London, Mackney followed a similar pattern as in Birmingham, capitalising on his position to support his direct, campaigning approach to a wide range of issues. Recent examples include his opposition to the Gulf Wars and his success in 2003 in obtaining a special meeting of the TUC General Council which secured the TUC's opposition to the Second War. Mackney never regarded himself as a pacifist, seeing a justification for wars of national liberation. However, he has always eschewed what he described as a tradition of western violence through imperialism and global political and economic strategies.

Paul Mackney combined a deep desire for social justice and a drive for action to achieve this with an administrative flair and capacity to absorb prodigious workloads. He did not compartmentalise different facets of his life and this collection cannot therefore be divided into discrete blocks. Whilst a themed approach has been adopted where possible, the contents of each series have a close and direct bearing on others. Mackney's bureaucratic skills and his readiness to use his various representative positions on bodies to support his core beliefs are reflected in these papers. Records that may initially be regarded as the official documents of particular organisations often contain so much diverse material generated by or centred on Mackney that they are best understood as part of Mackney's personal collection.

Related Material: MS 2009 TURC; MS 2031 NATFHE

Access: Open unless stated otherwise.

Glossary

AART	Action Against Racism in Training
AMB	Area Manpower Board [Birmingham and Solihull]
BRAMU	Birmingham Racial Attacks Monitoring Unit
BTUC	Birmingham Trade Union Council
BTUSC	Birmingham Trade Union Studies Centre
BUMP	Birmingham Against Urban Motorway Plans
CAFF	Campaign against Fascism in France
CARF	Campaign against Racism and Fascism
CARL	Campaign against Racist Laws
CREMP	Campaign for Racial Equality on MSC Programmes
IS	International Socialists
LEA	Local Education Authority
MEAC	Midland Education Advisory Committee [TUC]
MSC	Manpower Services Commission
NACRO	National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders
NATESLA	National Association for Teaching English as a Second Language to Adults
NATFHE	National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education
NUM	National Union of Mineworkers
NUPE	National Union of Public Employees
REITS	Racial Equality in Training Schemes [Coventry]
SCAPB	Sheffield Campaign against the Police Bill
T & GWU	Transport and General Workers Union
TUC	Trades Union Congress
TURC	Trade Union Resource Centre [Birmingham]
TUSU	Trade Union Studies Unit [Hall Green College]
TVEI	Training and Vocational Education Initiative
WMCC	West Midlands County Council
WMRTUC	West Midlands Regional Trades Union Congress
WRNAFE	Work Related Non Advanced Further Education
YETRU	Youth Employment and Training Research Unit
YTS	Youth Training Scheme

MS 1591/A Paul Mackney - Educator, 1981 - 1992

Paul Mackney's commitment to education runs through this collection whether in his teaching and trade union activities, his political and social campaigning or his personal interests. This part of the collection however relates directly to his employment as a college lecturer and administrator.

MS 1591/A/1 Birmingham Trade Union Studies Centre , 1981 -1992

These records were created by Paul Mackney [or assembled by him] in his capacity of co-ordinator of the Birmingham Trade Union Studies Centre [BTUSC].

Paul Mackney was employed at Hall Green Technical College [later South Birmingham College]. He lectured in the Trade Union Studies Unit, and became the co-ordinator of the Trades Union Studies Centre at the City Annexe, Digbeth. These records reflect official college and Birmingham City Council policies [the latter being the local education authority (LEA) whose responsibility extended to colleges at this time]. They also provide an insight to Mackney's proactive approach to tackling administrative and political challenges.

The records reveal the close relationship between BTUSC, TURC, BTUC and the TUC Education Service, illustrating both Mackney's direct involvement with these bodies but also an increasing focus by them on educational and research activities in support of the labour movement. TURC provided both tutors and resources for BTUSC but this did not deter the TUC from funding BTUSC. This may initially appear contradictory given the TUC's hostility to trade union information and research centres [and TURC in particular - see MS 2009]. However, its co-operation with BTUSC reflects a willingness amongst activists within various elements of the labour movement to engage with each other on practical matters.

MS Birmingham Trade Union Studies Centre Development 1981 - 1992

1591/A/1/1

This file was inherited by Paul Mackney when he became Co-ordinator of Birmingham Trade Union Studies Centre [BTUSC] and he maintained it as a record of activities concerning the Centre. This file has been located within Mackney's personal papers as it developed into a record of his utilisation of an extensive network of trade union and political contacts in pursuit of his objectives with regard to the Centre and the role of education in furthering social justice.

This file contains copies of business papers and correspondence relating to the Centre [and its forerunner] rather than formal records of its business. Taken together, these papers reveal the process [and struggles] by which BTUSC was established. They also provide an insight to the working of the original Trade Union Studies Unit and the issues faced by a college of further education in the 1980s. Crucially for the collection as a whole, this file offers a glimpse of how Paul Mackney's colleagues viewed

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1591/A/1/1
continued

workload implications of his trades union activities and also his formal career progression within Hall Green College. It also illustrates Mackney's wide network of trades union and political contacts and how he used these contacts to achieve his campaigning objectives as well as protecting the success of BTUSC.

Commencing in 1981, this file covers the development of the Trade Union Studies Unit into a full-scale Trade Union Studies Centre housed at the City Annexe, Floodgate Street, Digbeth. Originally interleaved with this file were MS 1591/A/2 [TUSC Steering Committee] and MS 1591/A/3 [Poster for the 'Race Equality and Education Post - 1992' conference at TUSC].

The first part of this file was created by Colin Fussell, Section Leader for Trade Union Studies at Hall Green College. Concerning the period 1981 to 1986, papers cover both strategic and operational matters and a mixture of internal college communications, correspondence with the City Council's Education Department and correspondence with external organisations.

Colin Fussell initially proposed seeking TUC designation as a 'Trade Union Studies Centre' in 1981. Such designation provided 'contractual' agreements between the TUC and the relevant college and LEA, the resulting commitment to fund courses for specified periods offering a degree of security. Designated centres were also entrusted with curriculum development on behalf of the TUC, offering opportunities to recruit course participants from new markets and enhancing the reputation of centres involved.

This proposal generated much correspondence; within the College and LEA and with the TUC. By 1985 the TUC's Midland Education Advisory Committee sought to enter into discussions with Birmingham City Council with a view to establish a 'centre of excellence' for trade union studies based upon the City Annexe in Floodgate Street. However, the future of the City Annexe itself formed the subject of much correspondence as the City Council strove to save costs in light of central government spending restrictions.

Premises formerly occupied by William Farrer Ltd in Welby Road, Hall Green [the 'Welby Centre'] were purchased in 1983 to provide additional accommodation for Hall Green College and the City Annexe was targeted for closure. Employees of the Trade Union Studies Unit [including Paul

MS
1591/A/1/1
continued

Mackney] objected to this proposal and prepared alternative proposals to retain the Annexe for trade union studies. Representations were also made to the City Council by BTUC and the TUC Education Service. The closure proposal was eventually rejected and the Birmingham Trade Union Studies Centre was opened in a refurbished City Annexe in 1988.

This section of the file also details practical matters such as building layout plans, and furniture, equipment and fittings requirements. Some of these relate to proposals to relocate the Trade Union Studies Unit from Floodgate Street, whilst others are concerned with general operations of the section. A computer software package called ORMBETA was evaluated in 1985 for filing information about TUC students.

Educational matters are covered in this section and an insight is provided into the planning and administration of courses. Such courses were often of short duration and sometimes were organised in conjunction with other colleges. Details of courses specifically for women trade unionists are contained and these provide an insight to the response to this need by Birmingham colleges of further education during this period. A copy of 'A Plan for Training' is contained, produced by the TUC - Labour Party Liaison Committee in 1984. This sought a new deal for young people and wider opportunities for adults. It also considered funding issues and delivery mechanisms for training. A copy of Guidance Note Number 7 'LEA WRNAFE Development Plans' is also included. Issued by the Further Education Unit in 1985, it considered the purchase by the Manpower Services Commission of LEA provided work-related non-advanced further education.

A note about the excellent conduct of staff members in dealing with a serious incident involving a member of the public in 1981 is included.

Paul Mackney succeeded Colin Fussell as Section Leader for Trade Union Studies in 1986. The file continues to contain papers relating to the threat to Floodgate Street, but Mackney's approach is readily apparent. The case for developing the TUSC at Floodgate made by Fussell and Mackney had been accepted by Hall Green's managers by this time, but the City Council and particularly key officers within the Education Department remained in favour of closing the building. Mackney lobbied hard against this and the file contains notes of the strategy he adopted. This included direct lobbying of key councillors including

MS
1591/A/1/1
continued

Sir Richard Knowles [Leader of the City Council] and Najma Hafeez [Chair of the Continuing Education Committee]. Correspondence between Mackney and Nigel Barnacle [co-opted NATFHE representative on the Continuing Education Sub-committee] is also included, as are copies of reports by officers of the Education and Development Departments.

Contained within this file are papers relating to trades union courses provided by Sandwell College of Further Education and Solihull College of Technology and the possible effect these may have on Hall Green's TUSU receiving TUC designation. Copy notes relating to the Black Country Trade Union Studies Centre and Library Information Service are also included.

Once the future of the TUSU at Floodgate Street was confirmed as secure, the nature of the correspondence altered. Detailed lists of equipment and structural requirements were submitted by Mackney. Detailed job description and person specification for Trade Union Studies Tutors were also included. Detailed building specifications and revised proposals to meet budget constraints were provided, including building plans. Correspondence about accommodation for the Building Supervisor is also contained.

Detailed negotiations between Hall Green College and the TUC Education Office about the designation of Floodgate Street as a Trade Union Studies Centre are covered in this file. Internal correspondence concerning a proposed College re-organisation and the position of the new Centre within it are also included.

Papers relating to the Trade Union Studies Centre Steering Committee cover the period May 1987 to May 1988. [See also Ms 1591/A1/2.] Calling Notices and agendas are included, as are copy minutes and reports. Mackney's willingness to use the local labour movement's network to bypass Council officers is illustrated by his direct appeal to Councillor Najma Hafeez [as Vice Chair of the Education Committee]. Mackney [with the approval of NATFHE] sought to make a specific appointment outside of the usual Appointments and Promotion Procedure. This was opposed by a senior officer within the Education Department but supported by the Principal of Hall Green College.

In 1990 a new steering committee for the TUSC was established, under the LEA's new Development Plan for

Continuing Education. A copy of this plan is included in this file, as is a report and related papers to the new steering committee.

MS
1591/A/1/1
continued

Educational matters included a proposal by the Amalgamated Engineers Union [AEU] to establish a National Technical Training Centre in Birmingham. This envisaged that training staff be utilised from within the Continuing Education Division of the Education Department. A report on open schools revealed that study circles to advise on citizenship applications under the Nationality Act 1981 were organised in advance of the deadline for registrations of 31st December 1987. Avtar Jouhl and Derek Hitches were open school tutors helping with such enquiries. Publicity material for TUC education courses is also contained, as is a leaflet 'Introducing Birmingham Trades Union Studies Centre'.

Correspondence concerning the suggested move of the National Association for Teaching English as a Second Language to Adults [NATESLA] to Hall Green College is also included.

In 1987 Mackney wrote to a colleague on behalf of the TUSU requesting that a calendar "with pictures of scantily clad women" be removed from the Management Staff Room. He observed that not only did members of the Unit find it objectionable but that it did not present a positive image of women for visitors to the Unit.

1987 - 1988

MS
1591/A/1/2Trade Union Studies Centre Steering Committee

[This file was originally interleaved with MS 1591/A/1/1]

This committee was established to prepare for the Centre's opening in May 1988, after which it was replaced by an advisory body.

The committee was composed of 2 City Councillors [LEA], 1 senior officer of the City Council [LEA], 2 representatives of the TUC's Midland Education Advisory Committee [MEAC], the TUC Regional Education Officer for the West Midlands, the TUSU co-ordinator, 2 representatives of BTUC, 1 representative of the Governing body of Hall Green College and the College Principal. In addition, trade union tutors would attend in a non-voting capacity as required and a Clerk to the steering committee was provided from the College staff.

This steering committee should not be confused with a subsequent steering committee established in 1990 as a result of the LEA's new Development Plan for Continuing Education [see MS 1591/A/1/1].

This file contains papers concerning the committee, whose business focused on establishing the Trades Union Studies Centre at Floodgate Street, culminating in the official opening by Norman Willis, General Secretary of the TUC on 29th June 1988. These papers are working copies and contain annotations by Mackney and notes to the Clerk of the steering committee.

Practical matters were covered, such as staffing, building and equipment issues and arrangements for the official opening. In addition, strategic issues were considered such as course provision and the Centre's response of TUC initiatives such as the 'Adopt a School' scheme.

MS
1591/A/1/3'Race Equality and Education Post - 1992' Poster

[This was originally interleaved with MS 1591/A/1]

1991

This poster advertised a conference on 02/03/1992 on the subject 'Race Equality and Education Post 1992' hosted by BTUSC and organised by Birmingham City Council Race Relations Unit, Indian Workers' Association (GB), Bangladeshi Workers' Association, Kashmiri Workers' Association, Afro-Caribbean Resource Centre & NATFHE.

[The single internal market was to be introduced within the European Community in 1992.]

MS 1591/B Paul Mackney - Trades Unionist

Paul Mackney was a trades unionist for most of his adult life. He joined NATFHE where he rose to become General Secretary and play a key role in the merger of that union with the AUT to form the UCU [University and College Union]. During Mackney's time in Birmingham, he became President of Birmingham Trade Union Council, chaired the BTUC Miners' Support Committee and represented the Regional TUC on the Birmingham and Solihull Area Manpower Board.

MS 1591/B/1 NATFHE

This series contains papers generated through Paul Mackney's involvement with NATFHE, but which sit more comfortably with his personal papers. Please refer to MS 2031 NATFHE [Birmingham Branch] for formal records of the union.

MS 'Support Bridget Parsons' Campaign 1981 - 1983

1591/B/1/1

An envelope of correspondence relating to this case was contained within a file entitled CARF 1. This appears to be because of the support campaign launched against Bridget Parson's alleged false imprisonment as a result of the 1981 Handsworth disturbances and her subsequent dismissal from Birmingham Education Department. Bridget was a respected campaigner against racism, in England and Zimbabwe [then Rhodesia].

Whilst other contents of CARF 1 have been catalogued under MS 1591/C/1/1, this set of papers was primarily generated through Mackney's position as Secretary to the Birmingham Liaison Committee of NATFHE. However, his close personal interest in the case [not least as President of BTUC] resulted in these papers being retained in this collection rather than the main run of NATFHE Birmingham papers [MS 2031].

The 'Support Bridget Parsons' campaign was launched in 1981, after Bridget was arrested and imprisoned for throwing stones at a police vehicle in the July 1981 disturbances in Handsworth, Birmingham. [Bridget acknowledged that she was present but denied that she threw missiles.] Bridget was dismissed from her post as a maths teacher at George Dixon Secondary School by a disciplinary hearing convened by Birmingham Local Education Authority.

Leaflets for the campaign are enclosed, as are two newspaper articles (Birmingham Post and Birmingham Evening Mail 08/10/1987). The bulk of these papers

MS
1591/B/1/1
continued

however consist of correspondence to and from Paul Mackney in his capacity as Secretary to NATFHE's Birmingham Liaison Committee.

Mackney wrote a letter of support to Bridget in her appeal against dismissal by Birmingham LEA. In this capacity he also wrote to Councillor Charles Gray, Chair of Birmingham Education Committee, detailing NATFHE's reservations about the case and requesting that these be communicated to members of the Education Committee. Mackney also sent a copy of his letter to Councillor Gray directly to Education Committee members [a list of names is included].

Replies were received from Councillor Gray and some committee members, the amount of detail dependent on the individual's knowledge of the case and / or Bridget Parsons. Some of these letters are therefore closed under Data Protection legislation until 01/01/2062. Please liaise with search room staff. Bridget's reply to Paul Mackney [postmarked 23rd November 1983] is similarly restricted as it makes reference to the contents of some of these letters [copies had previously been requested from Paul by Bridget's National Union of Teachers representative to assist with her appeal against dismissal].

[Access: Partially closed \[see above\]](#)

Extent: 1 Envelope

MS 1591/B/2 West Midlands Regional TUC

Paul Mackney represented BTUC on the West Midlands Regional TUC.

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1591/B/2/1

WMRTUC Representative to the Birmingham and Solihull
Area Manpower Board

Originally marked as 'YTS Equal Opportunities' this file was created by Paul Mackney in his capacity as representative for the West Midlands Regional TUC on the Birmingham and Solihull Area Manpower Board [AMB] and its Equal Opportunities Sub-group. The file has been catalogued within this collection as it contains Mackney's personal copies of papers relating to his representation. However, it was originally deposited with Birmingham City Archives as part of the TURC papers [MS 2009] because of the close involvement of TURC and YETRU researchers in preparing submissions to the AMB. It thus demonstrates the close relationship between these two collections.

The AMB was an advisory body for the Manpower Services Commission [MSC] and drew representatives of employers, Youth Training Scheme administrators and trades unions together. The Equal Opportunities Sub-group was charged with eliminating discrimination and promoting equal opportunities and good practice within all MSC programmes covered by the Birmingham and Solihull area. The terms of reference for the Sub-group covered all forms of discrimination, including racial discrimination, sex discrimination and discrimination on grounds of disability.

As well as a general concern with minimising the impact of unemployment and maximising the employment opportunities for young people, Paul Mackney was keen to combat racial discrimination. He therefore contributed directly to the preparation and introduction of a Policy Statement on the Promotion of Equality of Opportunity and the Elimination of Discrimination on MSC Schemes. This file depicts both the development of the Statement [with drafts and consultation papers] and also its presentation to and reception by interested parties.

The 'Equal Opportunities' Statement drew on and attracted attention to research demonstrating the unequal nature of access to and benefits from YTS courses. BTUC, NATFHE and TURC / YETRU were anxious to rectify this

MS
1591/B/2/1
Continued

and Mackney's connection with these organisations facilitated their involvement and is reflected in this file. It contains his personal copies of papers generated by his membership of the AMB and the Equal Opportunities Sub-group. As well as minutes of meetings and reports considered at such meetings, correspondence with other members of the AMB, the MSC and interested bodies are enclosed. Such bodies include Birmingham City Council, the Commission for Racial Equality, NACRO [the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders], NATFHE and YETRU. Observations of what should be contained in the statement are included, and some of these bodies [and some other organisations] provided examples of their equal opportunity Policy statements. There are also research notes concerned with access and attainment levels for women and different ethnic groupings with regard to YTS schemes. Statistical breakdowns of the composition of such schemes are included, as is Mackney's correspondence with WMRTUC.

Mackney's concern to combat racial discrimination led him to prematurely release ethnic monitoring information which the Manpower Services Commission had presented to the AMB in confidence. This information revealed a serious under-representation of black trainees on YTS schemes and controversy raged both over the revelations and the manner in which they had been made public.

Records contained in this collection [and in MS 2009 TURC including YETRU] provide details of the nature and extent of racial discrimination within YTS schemes and of the controversy that ensued from these revelations. MS 2009/A/3/6 [containing a letter from Paul Mackney to TURC researchers concerning manoeuvrings within the AMB against his stance on confidential statistics on racism on YTS schemes 21/02/1987] is also relevant in this context.

CREMP [the Campaign for Racial Equality on MSC Programmes] also publicised the severe under-representation of black trainees on MSC schemes in Birmingham and Solihull and the file contains copies of the research highlighting this situation, press releases from CREMP and letters of complaint to local newspaper editors regarding misrepresentation of CREMP's position. [Key players in CREMP included Anna Pollert and Edward D'Sousa, researchers at YETRU.] Contained within this file are minutes of a CREMP meeting held at the TURC premises on 07/10/1985.

MS
1591/B/2/1
continued

The file has a notice for a lobby of the MSC offices in Birmingham to protest at the failure of the MSC to release figures on the proportion of trainees on YTS schemes, by race, gender and disability. The lobby was called by CREMP and CARF, Birmingham and supported by BTUC and NATFHE. Mackney was involved with this.

Contained within the file are papers relating to an internal investigation into Birmingham City Council's College Group Youth Training Scheme, received by Mackney in his capacity as a NATFHE official.

A selection of newspaper cuttings relate to discrimination on MSC schemes.

Publications contained in this file include: 'The Class of '84: A study of girls on the first year of the Youth Training Scheme' by the National Joint Committee of Working Women's Organisations [1985], 'Four Meanings to TVEI [Technical and Vocational Education Initiative]' [nd], 'Choices at 14 Plus' by Birmingham Careers Service [1985], 'Equal Opportunities in the Youth Training Scheme: Note for the MSC Youth Training Board' by the TUC General Council [1985], 'MSC Labour Market Quarterly Report Great Britain' [1984], 'Y.T.S. or White T.S.? Racial discrimination and Coventry's youth training schemes' by REITS [Racial Equality in Training Schemes] [1985], 'Racism & YTS part One - the Birmingham Experience' draft article by Paul Mackney for a forthcoming edition of the NATFHE Journal [1985], 'Racism Awareness Training - the Emperor's new clothes' by CARF [nd].

MS 1591/B/3 BTUC Birmingham Trade Union Council

Established in 1866, the Trades Council developed as a multi union local campaign group. In the early 1980s it established the Birmingham Trade Union Resource Centre, the Youth Employment & Training Research Unit and the Birmingham Centre for the Unemployed, all of which were funded by West Midlands County Council. The title of Birmingham Trade Union Council was also adopted at this time.

These papers relate to Paul Mackney's involvement in the early 1980s. They are mainly his personal copies of minutes and related papers (agendas, reports etc), although one file on the TURC [Creation] Sub committee appears to have originally been the BTUC Secretary's file.

MS
1591/B/3/1 Birmingham Trades Council Meetings
Council was composed of delegates to BTUC, nominated by individual trades unions. This was the official decision making body.

This folder contains Paul Mackney's personal copies of business papers, including agendas for and minutes of meetings, reports etc. Some of these are annotated. Whilst the papers cover the full range of BTUC business during this period, there are specific references to TURC with which Mackney was closely connected.

Items considered include a report on the work of TURC and the Birmingham Anti-cuts Committee concerning privatisation; a call by Paul Mackney for TURC to "YETRU-ise" more of its work; a discussion of differing views between BTUC [and the TURC Management Committee] and TURC staff as to whether TURC should produce a Journal for BTUC [staff were resisting this proposal].

MS
1591/B/3/2 Birmingham Trades Council Executive Committee Meetings
The Executive Committee organized the running order of Council meetings, developed policy proposals for Council and implemented agreed policies of Council. Amongst other responsibilities, it nominated members of TURC Management Committee and YETRU Management Committee.

This folder contains Paul Mackney's copies of business papers, including agenda for and minutes of meetings, reports etc. Some of these are annotated and they cover the full range of BTUC business at this time. There are a

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1591/B/3/2
continued

number of references to TURC with which Mackney was closely involved at this time. In 1981 these include issues surrounding the creation of TURC and also BTUC nominations to its Management Committee. In 1982 the apparent reluctance of TURC to offer temporary accommodation to the newly appointed Director of the [BTUC] Centre for the Unemployed was considered. In 1983 there was a concern that TURC should endeavour to improve the order of priority of certain projects originated by the Trades Council.

A particular issue causing concern was a 1985 TUC Circular about the Trade Union Resources Trust. This circular indicated that no trade union should be involved with this Trust. It was considered [by BTUC] to be a provocative communication which was designed to undermine the ability of Resource Centres to generate funds in the future.

In 1988, the TURC funding crisis was considered. Some committee members noted that YETRU & TURC were possibly suffering from the link with BTUC and its policies. Other members welcomed that TURC and YETRU were using the crisis to examine their services & relationship with users. In 1989 the TURC funding crisis was again considered, Avtar Jouhl criticised Mick Rice, the Secretary of the Trades Council over his interventions in meeting with the Chair of Birmingham City Council's Economic Development Committee [who was the major funder of TURC at this time].

MS
1591/B/3/3

TURC Creation Sub-committee

This file charts the development of TURC from a concept promoted by WMCC and BTUC in the face of TUC opposition, to the practical matters of recruiting staff and establishing an office and centre, with an ongoing rumble of criticism from staff. It reveals the difficulties of a small number of individuals occupying a range of roles simultaneously: Sir David Perris Secretary of BTUC, Secretary of WMRTUC, company secretary of TURC and (briefly – until legal advice was received) a member of the TURC Management Committee.

The contents include a copy letter from Lionel [Len] Murray, General Secretary of the (TUC) to Sir David Perris. This refers to TUC Circular No. 71 (1981 – 82) [attached] and calls on BTUC (and also the WMRTUC) not to participate in the establishment of the proposed Birmingham TURC. Papers recording the Trade Council's deliberations on this subject and its formal response to Len

MS
1591/B/3/3
continued

Murray are included. Information about a meeting in February 1982 between the newly appointed TURC Management Committee and Ken Graham, Assistant General Secretary of the TUC with Don Groves of WMRTUC is included. A statement from BTUC is included that its decision to proceed is not defiance of TUC:

'We either grasp the nettle and go ahead or forget the whole project and probably the possibility of obtaining a grant for the Centre for the Unemployed as well'.

Correspondence between BTUC, WMRTUC and individual trades unions concerning BTUC's decision to proceed with a resource centre in spite of TUC opposition reveals tensions within the labour movement over this issue.

Administrative papers relating to the recruitment of a co-ordinator and researchers for the new TURC are included, as are newspaper cuttings about this appointment and the dispute between BTUC and the TUC over establishing TURC.

The file also contains correspondence from Paul Mackney to the new co-ordinator; an insight to the Women's Festival disagreement on 01/05/82 is provided, as are ideas for the co-ordinator's report to the TURC Management Committee in May 1982.

MS
1591/B/3/4

TURC Formation

Originally called 'TURC Print' this file contains papers generated by Paul Mackney and others within BTUC relating to the formation of and administrative procedures for TURC.

This file covers negotiations between BTUC and interested bodies: West Midlands County Council for funding; TUC over whether BTUC should set up a Resource Centre; job descriptions for posts at TURC, together with application forms and comments by BTC officers on applicants; newspaper cuttings on controversy between TUC & BTUC over establishment of TURC. The contents include: Draft Articles of Association for the Birmingham Trade union Resource Centre Ltd nd (& Duplicate); BTURC funding application nd (& Duplicate) WMCC Conditions of Grant Aid to Birmingham Trades Council (Project: TURC) nd; TURC job description for Research Worker nd [1982] (& duplicate); job description Media Officer nd; TURC job description International Relations Officer nd; TURC job description Print & Media Worker nd; TURC Job description Librarian nd; TURC job description Administrative Worker nd; TURC job description Co-

MS
1591/B/3/4
continued

Coordinator nd; code of practice nd; TURC Reminder of Informal Day 20/02/1988 - 1 bundle containing: front sheet outlining plans for day (handwritten), Proposals for Structuring Informal Day (Typed), Historical Growth of TURC, BCC Grants to Voluntary Organizations conditions of grant aid to BTUC (Project: TURC) nd [1988?]; TURC Print business plan nd; persons working at TURC and their job descriptions nd; notes of a negotiating meeting with NGA on TURC Print workers agreement – 27/07/1988; BTUC grievance procedure nd; BTUC 1 bundle nd containing grievance procedure, management safety policy draft, disciplinary procedure, contract of employment [sample?] 1983, TURC 1 bundle of correspondence regarding disciplinary action against a TURC employee, 1 handwritten sketch of stakeholders with question 'who agrees on action?', letter from TUC WM Regional Council to BTC declining offer to take up place on TURC Management Committee 09/12/1983 & attachments; draft management safety policy

Access: This is partially closed. Please refer to search room staff

MS
1591/B/3/5

Report to BTUC on the National Justice for Mineworkers A.G.M.

1989

This report was originally included in a file of notices and correspondence related to the Miners' Strike by Paul Mackney [MS 1591/D/1/4]

This report was produced by Stuart Richardson for BTUC on the Annual General Meeting of the National Justice for Mineworkers Campaign, held in Sheffield on 08/04/1989. Attached is an agenda for the meeting, constitution for the campaign, minutes of the National Council AGM [1988], minutes of the National Council meeting [28/01/1989] and Secretary's Report to AGM.

The National Justice for Mineworkers Campaign was concerned with seeking justice for and providing welfare to miners sacked and / or imprisoned during and after the 1984/85 miners' strike.

MS 1591/C Paul Mackney - Campaigner

Whilst Paul Mackney consistently took a proactive stance in the various facets of his life, he also adopted some specific campaigns and causes, as considered here.

MS 1591/C/1 Campaigns against Injustice

- | | | |
|--------------------|--|--------------|
| MS
1591/C/1/1 | <u>CARF Campaign against Racism and Fascism</u>
Originally forming part of a file called CARF 1, these papers were gathered by Paul Mackney. They have been separated for convenience, but should be considered alongside papers in series MS 1591/C/1 & MS 1591/B/1/1.

CARF Birmingham was originally formed in 1977 by Birmingham District Labour Party and BTUC, to fight racism and fascism. It was re-launched in 1990.

This material consists of published items [formally or informally printed] relating to CARF, particularly the Birmingham branch which operated from TURC premises [7 Frederick Street] and later BTUC premises [Milk Street]. | 1986 - 1990 |
| MS
1591/C/1/1/1 | <u>Racism in Birmingham, TURC Information Digest No. 3</u>
Paul Mackney filed this publication in his file CARF 1 and it is retained with CARF papers.

This Information Digest was compiled by TURC Publishing in conjunction with CARF. It is a collection of articles dating from 1985 and 1986 that cover racism and racist behaviour. It includes a copy of Issue Number 1 of the Handsworth Defence Campaign Bulletin [1986]. | 1986 |
| MS
1591/C/1/1/2 | <u>CARF Birmingham, Notice of Re-launch</u>
This leaflet gave notice of a CARF Re-launch Planning Meeting, to be held on 30/01/1990 at the Shaheed Udham Singh Welfare Centre, Handsworth. | January 1990 |
| MS
1591/C/1/1/3 | <u>CARF News, Issue Number 1</u>
Originally formed in the mid 1970s, CARF Birmingham was re-launched in 1990.

This first issue of the newsletter contained an affiliation form for CARF and a notice for the forthcoming launch of BRAMU [Birmingham Racial Attacks Monitoring Unit]. | May 1990 |
| MS
1591/C/1/1/4 | <u>Notice of Mass Picket for Justice at the Old Bailey</u>
This notice was entitled 'Remember Kuldip Singh Sekhon; | 1990 |

Remember the Victims, Fight Racial Violence'. The prime details [including details of coach pick up points in Birmingham] were printed with a backdrop of the names of victims of racial murders in Britain since 1980.

MS
1591/C/1/2

Tasleem Akhtar Memorial Committee

1990

Originally forming part of a file called CARF 1, these papers were gathered by Paul Mackney. They have been separated for convenience, but should be considered alongside other papers in series MS 1591/C/1.

This committee was established in memory of Tasleem Akhtar, an eleven year old girl murdered only yards from her home in Sparkhill, Birmingham. This crime occurred on 6th December 1989 and was regarded as a racially motivated murder by her family and community. This was not the view initially taken by the authorities however and the committee was established to inform people about such crimes and to campaign for justice for people from all communities.

This material consists of one hand written note and printed notices, one of which is annotated.

MS
1591/C/1/2/1

Notice of Memorial Meeting, March and Rally

1990

A printed notice, in English, Urdu and other South Asian languages, this gives a brief background to the murder of Tasleem Akhtar, and the aims of the Memorial Committee. Details of a forthcoming memorial meeting and subsequent memorial march and rally are given. The notice contains a photographic image of Tasleem.

MS
1591/C/1/2/2

Notice of Memorial Meeting, March and Rally [annotated]

1990

A duplicate of MS 1591/C/1/2/1, this copy has been annotated with notes to be delivered at the memorial meeting or rally. The handwriting is similar to that of Tasleem's uncle [on MS 1591/C/1/2/3].

As with MS 1591/C/1/2/1, this is a printed notice, in English, Urdu and other South Asian languages, and gives a brief background to the murder of Tasleem Akhtar, and the aims of the Memorial Committee. Details of a forthcoming memorial meeting and subsequent memorial march and rally are given. The notice contains a photographic image of Tasleem.

In addition, this item is annotated with hand written aims of the Committee.

MS 1591/C/1/2/3	<u>Tasleem Akhtar's Uncle: Notes for Speech to Memorial March and Rally</u>	1990
MS 1591/C/1/2/3 continued	<p>This handwritten note, on a page from a filofax binder was written by the uncle who found Tasleem's body. It is similar handwriting to that on MS 1591/C/1/2/2.</p> <p>This note appears to contain part of a speech to be given to the memorial meeting arranged in honour of Tasleem. It also sets out the aims of the Memorial Committee as stopping racially motivated murders and to fight such crimes.</p>	
MS 1591/C/1/2/4	<u>Tasleem Akhtar Memorial Committee; Briefing Note & Affiliation Form</u>	1990
	<p>This blank affiliation form contains brief details [in English and Urdu] of Tasleem's murder together with racist murders in Manchester and Oldham. A photographic image of Tasleem is also contained.</p>	
MS 1591/C/1/2/5	<u>Tasleem Akhtar Memorial Committee; Briefing Note & Affiliation Form</u>	1990s
	<p>Headed 'Campaign Continues ..' this note gives news of the committee's progress in English and Urdu, as well as background details of Tasleem's murder and racist murders in Manchester and Oldham.</p>	

MS
1591/C/1/3

**Campaigns and Campaigning Organisations in
Birmingham & the West Midlands**

1990 - 1991

A range of campaigns and events by campaigning organisations within Birmingham and the West Midlands metropolitan area are represented in this file including;

1. Baba Bakhtaura Defence Campaign press release for the campaign against deportation of Baba Bakhtaura Singh, a Punjabi folk singer residing in Birmingham [nd].
2. Patel Family Defence Campaign, leaflet for a picket of the Immigration Appeal Hearing in London, coaches from Walsall and Birmingham [nd].
3. 'The Springfield Parents' Leaflet [in English and Punjabi] calling for support for parents at Springfield School, Birmingham in their campaign for a bilingual home liaison teacher [nd],
4. 'Defend Women's Abortion rights; No Reduction in Time Limits' leaflet for week of action by the Stop the Amendment Campaign [c/o BTUC at TURC premises] [1990].
5. 'Black People and Employment Training' Leaflet for a conference in Birmingham, organised by AART [Action Against Racism in Training] [1990].
6. 'Europe 1992; Trade Unions and Black Workers' Leaflet for conference at Birmingham Trade Union Studies Centre [1990].
7. 'Poll-Tax, Racism, Peace & Socialism' leaflet in English and Punjabi for a National Conference at West Park College, Smethwick and organised by the Co-ordination Committee of the Indian Workers' Association G.B. (both) [1990].
8. 'Celebrate 50th Anniversary of Shaheed Udham Singh's Martyrdom' leaflet in English and Punjabi, organised by the Indian Worker's Association G.B. Birmingham and Birmingham & Sandwell Branches, with speakers from the African National Congress and the 'Irish Movement' [1990].
9. 'Social Evening at the Milestone Public House, Handsworth' organised by the TUC Education Service and the Indian Workers Association G.B. in respect of a visiting trade union delegation from India [1990].
10. 'Rock 'n' Roll Jordan' newsletter announcing this Banner Theatre production's return to Birmingham [1990].
11. 'Rock 'n' Roll Jordan' Banner Theatre programme for a production telling the story of one man's experiences of emigrating from Jamaica to Nottingham in the 1950s [1990].
12. 'Fight Racist Attacks' Bina Kumari Defence Campaign

leaflet for demonstration in Birmingham [1991].

13. Bina Kumari Defence Campaign, blank petition form against the racial harassment received from Birmingham neighbours and a City Council Housing Officer [1991].

MS
1591/C/1/4

Campaigns and Campaigning Organisations beyond the West Midlands

1983 - 1992

A range of campaigns and events by campaigning organisations beyond the West Midlands metropolitan area are represented in this file including;

1. 'League Watch News' Issue Number 1 of news bulletin established to monitor the activities of the Economic League, particularly member companies that blacklisted trades unionists [nd],
2. 'Vote Morris, Fight Racism' photocopied poster by the Socialist Worker in support of Bill Morris' campaign to be elected General Secretary of the T & GWU [nd].
3. Leaflet for 'Justice for Mother & Daughter Support Group' Walthamstow, London [nd].
4. Photocopied notice in Urdu showing group of young men, some of whom are making a clenched fist salute [nd].
5. 'Free the Bradford 12' published by the National Mobilising Committee [nd]. This newsletter bears the headline 'Bradford 12 are Freed! Self-defence is no offence' but has had articles removed. It contains articles on the Cardiff 6 and Irish 'Prisoners of War'.
6. 'Young People and the Police Bill' A childright pull-out by the Children's Legal Centre [nd].
7. 'Newham 8, Colin Roach - One Struggle One fight' Poster for Demonstration in London against Racism and Racist Attacks, travel being arranged by [unspecified] Sheffield group[nd].
8. 'Black community under Attack! Ahmed Khan is Innocent!' Poster for demonstration in Sheffield [nd].
9. 'Stop Police Harassment' [of Black People] Poster for national demonstration in Sheffield [1983].
10. 'Stop Police Harassment' [of Black People] Poster for national demonstration in Sheffield called by the Asian Youth Movement, Sheffield [1983].
11. SCAPB [Sheffield Campaign against the Police Bill] Poster for March and Rally & entertainment [1984].
12. 'Conviction Overturned' Photocopied article from the [Sheffield] Morning Telegraph concerning the successful appeal supported by the Asian Youth Movement of a man wrongfully convicted of possessing an offensive weapon [1984].
13. 'Informers and Show Trials' [[1983?]] a leaflet produced by the Troops Out Movement about the Justice system in Northern Ireland.
14. '1992 and the Ethnic Minorities' Poster for Conference

in London for CARL [Campaign against Racist Laws [1990].

15. 'Nazis Out!' Bulletin of CAFF [Campaign against Fascism in France], March 1990.

MS
1591/C/1/4
continued

16. 'Nazis Out!' February 1991.

17. 'Nazis Out!' March 1991.

18. 'The Guardian' Article for 28/04/1990 about new immigration rules.

19. 'The Sun' selected photocopied pages for 01/11/1990 concerning Jacques Delors, France and the European Community.

20. Anti Nazi League Newsletter, Issue 3 [1992].

MS 1591/C/2 Environmental Campaigns

MS
1591/C/2/1

BUMP Birmingham Against Urban Motorway Plans

As a resident of King's Heath, Paul Mackney played an active part in defending the environmental quality of the district. He therefore played an active part in the local action group BUMP, which was formed to counter proposals by the City Council to widen the A435 Alcester Road through King's Heath as part of highway developments to link Birmingham City Centre with the M40 motorway.

Please refer to search room staff for records of BUMP.

MS 1591/C/3 Political Activities

Upon moving to Birmingham to take up a post at Hall Green Technical College in 1975, Paul Mackney established contact with the Birmingham branch of the International Socialists [IS]. This was a crucial period for 'IS' as it sought to evolve from a radical political grouping towards a genuine political party [eventually emerging as the Socialist Workers' Party]. The situation was compounded in Birmingham where pragmatic working relationships had been formed between local 'IS' and Communist Party members which were condemned by the IS leadership. Mackney allied himself with the emerging IS Opposition and became a spokesperson for the IS Opposition Steering Committee. He was expelled from the International Socialists on 17th December 1975 and joined the Workers' League for a time, before joining the Labour Party. [A number of key players within BTUC and TURC in the 1980s and 1990s were former members of the International Socialists, in Birmingham and elsewhere.]

Please refer to search room staff for records relating to Paul Mackney's political involvement.

MS 1591/D Paul Mackney - Personal papers**MS 1591/D/1 'Birmingham and the Miners' Strike; the story of a solidarity movement', 1986 - 1988**

Paul Mackney undertook research on Birmingham and the 1984 – 85 Miners' Strike in 1986 for his dissertation as part of an MA in Industrial Relations at the University of Warwick. This later formed the basis of the book 'Birmingham and the Miners' Strike; the story of a solidarity movement' which was published in 1987

In addition to copies of the published book, this series contains research notes, audio cassette recordings of interviews made by Mackney and the transcripts of those interviews.

MS 'Birmingham and the Miners' Strike; the story of a solidarity movement' 1987
1591/D/1/1

This is an archive copy of the book produced by Paul Mackney on behalf of Birmingham Trades Council. The BTC published this book and it was distributed by TURC Publishing. RAP Ltd typeset and printed the book [See MS 2009/A/3/5 for papers relating to this].

In this book Mackney charts the local response to a national dispute and charts the growth of community support groups [particularly women's groups] as well as the formal trade union involvement.

The contents of this book are as follows:
 Preface by Geraldine Egan, President of BTUC 1987,
 Introduction,
 NUM [National Union of Mineworkers] picketing in the midlands,
 The rise and Fall of the regional TUC Miners' Support Committee,
 The Birmingham Trades Council Miners' Support Committee,
 The women from the mining communities,
 The support of the black communities,
 The response of the churches,
 Trade union and industrial support,
 The role of the Labour Party,
 The role of the Communist Party,
 Conclusions,
 Appendices:
 i List of people mentioned in the text,
 ii List of people interviewed,
 iii A note on methodology,
 iv Copy of questionnaire,

MS
1591/D/1/1
Continued

v 1984 TUC Congress decisions,
vi 'Close the Gates' actuality sequence from the Banner Theatre's 'Saltley Gate Show' 1972
vii 'Busking for the Miners' song (Dave Rogers / Banner Theatre, 1984),
viii 'The Laughing Policeman' song - Legs version [Legs - John Stevenson, miner],
ix Map of Midlands pits 1984,
x The strike day by day,
xi References.

Illustrations include:

'March with the Miners' poster designed by Dave Rushton of TURC,
Birmingham Trades Council Women's Group leaflet,
BTC Women's Group leaflet, translated to Punjabi & Urdu,
'Thank You' leaflet from Maesteg miners to the people of King's Heath and Moseley,
'The Miners' Strike' BTC Solidarity Bulletin Number 4
Thank you certificate to Birmingham Support Group from Hem Heath Women's support Group,
Ann Scargill, Arthur Scargill and Arthur Harper at the Saltley Gate Rally on 07/07/1984,
Lee Hall Miners joint picket with the Kewal Brothers strikers , July 1984,
South Wales and Nottinghamshire miners and wives end their occupation of the Price Waterhouse offices,
Birmingham 15/08/1984
The Skills Bus (organised by TURC and trade union studies tutors) which toured Warwickshire pits 30/08/1984,
Frances Rifkin of Banner Theatre and Paul Mackney recording for posterity the argument over the right to busk [with police officer] October 1984
Busking - the second Saturday shift,
St John's miners - Gwyn Davies, Allen (Legs) Stevenson and Rob James - and Cherry Sewell from the [Birmingham] support Group dress up to go collecting,
Birmingham Miners Support Committee members greet the French CGT Christmas Supply lorry outside the Trades Council offices on 21/12/1984,
Birmingham Miners Support Group members on the LCDTU Rally on 24/02/1985 shortly before it was attacked in Whitehall,
International Women's Day Rally, Chesterfield Football Ground 09/03/1985; Brenda Proctor and Doreen Mason of Midlands Women Against Pit Closures and Pay Tough and Jo Cattell of BTUC Women's' Group,
BTC demonstration calling for an amnesty for victimised miners in Birmingham 01/06/1985,
Ellen Smith and Sheila Smith (Ansley Workshops Support

Group)in Chamberlain Square, Birmingham after the Amnesty Rally 01/06/1985.

The cover photograph was taken by Nigel Dickinson.

MS
1591/D/1/2

Diary entitled 'Birmingham and the Miners' Strike 1984 - 85'

1977 - 1986

This diary was compiled by Paul Mackney whilst he was researching and writing the book 'Birmingham and the Miners' Strike' [published 1987]. However, it is not a conventional diary that would be compiled contemporaneously with events. This is a 1986 diary that has been used to reconstruct a sequence of events in 1985 relating to the miners' strike.

This 1986 diary was labelled 'Birmingham + Miners' Strike 1984 - 1985' by Paul Mackney and it also bears a label with his home address at that time. Mackney used the diary to reconstruct a sequence of events in 1985 by the simple device of changing the day of the corresponding date in 1986 to reflect that of 1985 [e.g. Wednesday 1st January 1986 is altered to show Tuesday 1st January 1985].

Entries are made the page for the in the appropriate date. These refer to a range of organisations, possibly indicating where Mackney has made notes from other sources. These organisations include the [Birmingham?] Miners' Support Committee, the Miners' Support Committee Power Stations Committee, BTUC, National Union of Mineworkers [NUM], West Midlands Regional TUC etc. Key decisions taken [or deferred] by these bodies are recorded, as are events such as mass pickets. In addition, events with a wider significance than the Miners' Strike are recorded e.g. the founding conference of the Campaign for Racial Equality on MSC Programmes [CREMP] on 19/01/1985.

This diary also contains entries taken from a diary kept by South Wales miners whilst they were billeted at the UCCATT premises in Birmingham. Extracts form the personal diary of Alun Jones, one of those miners.

Interleaved with the diary are the following items:
a. 'Here we go in North Staffs' invitation from the North Staffs [Staffordshire] Women's Action Group ad Stoke Miner's Support Group to the official opening of the Miners' Strike Exhibition at the Museum and Art Gallery, Hanley on 12/10/1985 (to be opened by Arthur Scargill, Dennis Skinner and Joe wills).

b. 'Coal in South Midlands and Kent' leaflet issued by the National Coal Board 1977/8

c. 'Coal in Western Area' leaflet issued by the National Coal Board 1983/4

MS
1591/D/1/3 **'Birmingham and the Miners' Strike' Recorded Interviews for Book** 1986

Paul Mackney recorded interviews with a number of people closely bound up with the response to the Miners' Strike in Birmingham. [Transcripts of these recordings are filed at MS 1591/D/1/4.]

MS
1591/D/1/3/1 1 Peter Clements 04/05/1986
This audio cassette tape was recorded by Paul Mackney when he interviewed Peter Clements of the NUM, Saint John's Colliery, Maesteg, Wales.

Side 1 is listed as 04/05/1986 Peter Clements,
Side 2 is listed as Pete Clements cont. half way.

MS
1591/D/1/3/2 2 John Bates 10/05/1986 and Alun Jones
This audio cassette tape was recorded by Paul Mackney when he interviewed John Bates and Alun Jones of the NUM, Maerdy, Wales.

Side 1 is listed as 2a John Bates,
Side 2 is listed as 2b Alun Jones 10/05/1986.

MS
1591/D/1/3/3 3 Alun Jones, Terry Williams, John Bates 10/05/1986
This audio cassette tape was recorded by Paul Mackney when he interviewed Alun Jones, Terry Williams and John Bates of the NUM, Maerdy, Wales.

Side 1 is listed as 3 Alun Jones, Terry Williams, John Bates,
Side 2 is not listed.

MS
1591/D/1/3/4 4 Terry Williams, Barbara Williams [also Alun Jones]
This audio cassette tape was recorded by Paul Mackney when he interviewed Alun Jones, Terry Williams of the NUM, Maerdy, Wales and Barbara Williams of Maerdy Women's Support Group.

Side 1 is listed as 4 Alun Jones, Terry Williams, Barbara Williams
Side 2 is listed as Barbara Williams.

MS
1591/D/1/3/5 5 Bobby Potts, Gwyn Davies, Rob James, Peter Clements, Colin Scourfield, 'Legs' Stevenson

This audio cassette tape was recorded by Paul Mackney when he interviewed Bobby Potts, Gwyn Davies, Rob James, Peter Clements, Colin Scourfield, and Allen 'Legs' Stevenson of the NUM, Saint John's Colliery, Maesteg.

Side 1 is listed as 5 Bobby Potts, Gwyn, Clem, Rob/Legs
11/05/1986

Side 2 is listed as 11/05/1986.

MS
1591/D/1/3/6

6 'Legs', Rob, Clem, Colin, Bobby

This audio cassette tape was recorded by Paul Mackney when he interviewed Allen 'Legs' Stevenson, Rob James, Peter Clements, Colin Scourfield and Bobby Potts of the NUM, Saint John's Colliery, Maesteg, Wales.

Side 1 is listed as 6 'Legs', Clem, Rob, Bobby 11/05/1986

Side 2 is not listed.

MS
1591/D/1/3/7

7 Allen (Legs) Stevenson 11/05/1986, Pat Tough
12/05/1986

This audio cassette tape was recorded by Paul Mackney when he interviewed Allen 'Legs' Stevenson of the NUM, Saint John's Colliery, Maesteg, Wales and Pat Tough of Birmingham Trade Council's Women's Group.

Side A is listed as 6* Allen 'Legs' 11/05/1986, Pat Tough
12/05/1986, [*The tape is not marked as 7, although the
sleeve is so marked]

Side B is not listed.

MS
1591/D/1/3/8

8 John Matthews, Johnny Murphy, Stuart Garry Daw Mill
21/05/1986

This audio cassette tape was recorded by Paul Mackney when he interviewed John Matthews, Jimmy Murphy and Stuart Garry of the NUM, Daw Mill.

Side A is listed as Daw Mill 21/05/1986

Side B is not listed.

MS
1591/D/1/3/9

9 Daw Mill 21/05/1986, Ansley Workshops 12/06/1986

This audio cassette tape was recorded by Paul Mackney when he interviewed John Matthews, Jimmy Murphy and Stuart Garry of the NUM, Daw Mill and Ellen Smith, Ansley Women's Support Group.

Side A is listed as 9 Daw Mill 21/05/1986

Side B is listed as 9 Ansley Workshop 12/06/1986

- MS
1591/D/1/3/10 10 Ansley Workshops 12/06/1986
This audio cassette tape was recorded by Paul Mackney.

Side A is listed as Ansley Workshops 12/06/1986
Side B is not listed.
- MS
1591/D/1/3/11 11 Lee Hall 18/06/1986
This audio cassette tape was recorded by Paul Mackney when he interviewed Eric Lippitt and Nigel Ashfield of the NUM, Lee Hall and Jessie Lippitt and Chris Ashfield of Lee Hall Women's Support Group.

Side 1 is listed as 11 Lee Hall 18/06/1986
Side 2 is not listed.
- MS
1591/D/1/3/12 12 Bob Arnott, Geoff Poxon 22/08/1984 [should read 1986]
This audio cassette tape was recorded by Paul Mackney when he interviewed Bob Arnott and Geoff Poxon, both of NUPE and the West Midlands Regional TUC Support Committee.

Side 1 is listed as 12 Bob Arnott (interruption by Geoff Poxon),
Side 2 is listed as Arnott continued and Geoff Poxon.
- MS
1591/D/1/3/13 13 Geoff Poxon 22/08/1986
This audio cassette tape was recorded by Paul Mackney when he interviewed Geoff Poxon of NUPE and the West Midlands Regional TUC Support Committee.

Side 1 is listed as 13 Geoff Poxon 22/08/1986,
Side 2 is not listed.
- MS
1591/D/1/3/14 14 Geoff Poxon
This audio cassette tape was recorded by Paul Mackney when he interviewed Geoff Poxon, of NUPE and the West Midlands Regional TUC Support Committee.

Side 1 is listed as 14 Geoff Poxon 22/08/1986,
Side 2 is not listed.
- MS
1591/D/1/4 **'The Birmingham Occupation'; 'Nuneaton Support for the Miners' Strike'; Transcripts of Taped Interviews for 'Birmingham and the Miners' Strike** 1985 - 1986
Originally interleaved with this file, but now recorded at MS 1591/B/3/5 is the Report to BTUC on the National Justice

for Mineworkers A.G.M.

This loose-leaf ring book contains Paul Mackney's hand written notes of the recorded interviews made whilst researching his book [see MS 1591/D/1/3/1 - 14].

However, as part of his research, he studied 'The Miners' Strike 1984 - 85' and a copy of this unpublished typescript is included in this folder. The paper dates from 1985 and has 41 pages. It consists of two articles:

'The Birmingham Occupation' by Jackie Brown covers pages 1 - 34 and has the following headings:

Kent [flying pickets]

TASS [AUEW / TASS Office, Birmingham]

Police / Picketing (Kent)

Solidarity (Kent)

South Wales - Organisation

My First Visit to South Wales

Saltley Picket?

Daw Mill - B.O.C. [British Oxygen Corporation]

West Midlands Strike Bulletin

Lea Hall

Birmingham Trades Council - Women's Group

This article discusses the practical arrangements needed to accommodate, organise and co-ordinate NUM flying pickets and supporters from Kent and South Wales in Birmingham and Warwickshire. Tactics used to cope with police actions against the movement of miners and supporters are recorded, as is the support infrastructure erected by trades unionists. A detailed picture of the experiences of miners and supporters is given.

The second article is 'Nuneaton and District Trades Council; Support for the Miners' Strike' by Mary Colyer. This covers pages 35 - 41 of the paper and explores the experiences of supporting Welsh and Kent miners in Warwickshire.

Interleaved with this folder are the following two notes:

a. Food Collections for Miners' Families; Area Contacts.

This is a list of names and telephone numbers of people assigned to specific districts of Birmingham. In addition details of food collecting points in the city are given.

b. K.H. [King's Heath] High Street Food Collections.

This is a hand written note providing information about the organisation of the collections and their success in creating a mountain of food that has become a landmark on King's Heath High Street.

MS
1591/D/1/4
continued

MS 1591/D/1/5 Notices and Correspondence concerning 'Birmingham and the Miners' Strike' 1987 - 1988

These papers were produced by the BTUC whilst Paul Mackney was Vice President, but are included here as they relate directly to the book he produced and were gathered together in this context.

This collection includes a set of notices [1987] announcing the publication of 'Birmingham and the Miners' Strike; the story of a solidarity movement' to librarians, midlands trades unionists and industrial relations & labour history journals. It also includes a blank remittance reminder / reorder note and a blank thank you / reorder note

Complimentary letters included are from Arthur Scargill [21/12/1987] and Peter Heathfield [11/01/1988] of the NUM [President and General Secretary respectively]. A copy letter from Paul Mackney to the editor of the Birmingham Evening Mail is also enclosed [11/04/1988] concerning the lack of coverage for the book in the newspaper.

MS 1591/D/1/6 Contact Details for the NUM, Women's Groups and Support Groups 1984

This envelope contains a set of index cards containing contact details for participants and supporters in the Miners' Strike. These cards have been annotated to show whether the subjects belong to the NUM, women's groups or other support groups.

MS 1591/D/2 Banner Theatre

Paul Mackney has had a long term involvement with Banner Theatre, which combines his interest in music and campaigning.

MS 1591/D/2/1 'Saltley Gate' 1992

This leaflet was originally interleaved with a file of papers relating to Paul Mackney's book 'Birmingham and the Miners' Strike' [acc: 1989/133 MS 1591/D/1/5]. However, the performance of 'Saltley Gate' publicised by the leaflet was to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of this event.

This leaflet promotes Banner Theatre's performance of 'Saltley Gate'.