



**BISHOPSGATE
INSTITUTE**

Tony Brierley Archive

(BRIERLEY)

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BRIERLEY Tony Brierley Archive 1904-2000

Name of Creator: Brierley, Anthony (Tony) (b.[1935]) lecturer and humanist

Extent: 1 box

Administrative/Biographical History: Tony Brierley founded the Oxford University Humanist Group in 1958. Often with more than 1,000 members, the OUHG held meetings with eminent speakers, organised weekly discussion meetings, publicised Humanism and opposed Christian missions to the University. It had its own small printing press and produced its own posters and termly cards as well as taking in business for other clubs. The OUHG folded in the early 1970s.

Custodial History: Deposited at Bishopsgate Institute by Tony Brierley in June 2008.

Scope and Content: Papers of Tony Brierley [b 1935], including: papers regarding Tony Brierley's activities with the Oxford University Humanist Group, 1958-1966; papers regarding Tony Brierley's involvement with the Birmingham Humanist Group, 1965-1972; miscellaneous papers relating to Tony Brierley's involvement in humanism and humanist groups, 1904-2000; and photographs of members of Oxford University Humanist Group and the Rationalist Press Association, 1963-1999. (1904-2000).

System of Arrangement: The Tony Brierley Archive is divided into the following four sections:

BRIERLEY/1	Oxford University Humanist Group
BRIERLEY/2	Birmingham Humanist Group
BRIERLEY/3	Miscellaneous Papers
BRIERLEY/4	Photographs

Language/scripts of material: English

Access conditions: OPEN

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Finding Aids: Adlib catalogue and copy of hand list available in the researcher's area.

Rules and Conventions: Compiled in compliance with General International Standard Archival Description, ISAD(G), second edition, 2000; National Council on Archives Rules for the Construction of Personal, Place and Corporate Names, 1997.

BRIERLEY Brierley, Anthony (Tony) (b [1935]) 1904-2000
Papers of Tony Brierley [b 1935], including:
papers regarding Tony Brierley's activities with
the Oxford University Humanist Group, 1958-
1966; papers regarding Tony Brierley's
involvement with the Birmingham Humanist
Group, 1965-1972; miscellaneous papers
relating to Tony Brierley's involvement in
humanism and humanist groups, 1904-2000;
and photographs of members of Oxford
University Humanist Group and the Rationalist
Press Association, 1963-1999. (1904-2000).
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BRIERLEY/1 Oxford University Humanist Group 1958-1966

Papers regarding Tony Brierley's activities with the Oxford University Humanist Group, including: correspondence, press cuttings, membership cards, publicity material (1958-1966)

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BRIERLEY/1/1 Oxford University Humanist Group: 1958-1961 1958-1961

Includes:

- photocopy of letter from Hector Hawton to Tony Brierley regarding Brierley's enquiry to the Rationalist Press Association about the presence of humanist groups at universities (1p) (23 January 1958)
- poster, 'All Interested are Warmly Invited to an Open Meeting of the Newly Formed Group When Mr. Hector Hawton of the Rationalist Press Association will Speak on What Humanism Means' (produced by the Oxford University Humanist Group) (1p) (February 1958)
- membership card of the Oxford University Humanist Group for Trinity Term 1958 (4pp) (April 1958)
- poster, 'H. J. Blackham, B.A. Secretary of the Ethical Union: Humanism in Practice' (produced by Oxford University Humanist Group) (1p) (April 1958)
- press cutting from 'Cherwell,' 'Unchristian Christians' (1p) (25 October 1958)
- membership card of the Oxford University Humanist Group for Hilary Term 1959 (6pp) (January 1959)
- membership card of the Oxford University Humanist Group for Trinity Term 1959 (4pp) (April 1959)
- poster, 'The First Social of Term' (produced by Oxford University Humanist Group) (1p) (October 1959)
- membership card of the Oxford University Humanist Group for Michaelmas Term 1959 (6pp) (October 1959)
- press cutting from 'Cherwell,' 'Humanist Challenge: Group Plans Rival Draw to Mission Week' (1p) (30 January 1960)
- press cutting from the 'Oxford Mail,' 'Letters to the Editor, "Humanism not Invalidated"' (1p) (8 February 1960)

- membership card of the Oxford University Humanist Group for Michaelmas Term 1960 (4pp) (October 1960)
- membership card of the Oxford University Humanist Group for Trinity Term 1960 (6pp) (April 1958)
- handbill advertising 'Social' and 'On Rome' talk (produced by Oxford University Humanist Group) (1p) (October 1960)
- poster, 'Birth Control or Self Control? Freda Parker (Family Planning Association)' and 'Is Communism a Religion? Jack Dunman (Communist Party)' (produced by Oxford University Humanist Group) (1p) (November 1960)
- poster, 'Michael Argyle: The Philosophy of Morals,' 'Prof. A. J. Ayer: Fatalism,' and 'Prof. Hyman Levy: The Reds - Are They Human?' (produced by Oxford University Humanist Association) (1p) (November 1960)
- membership card of the Oxford University Humanist Group for Hillary Term 1961 (4pp) (January 1961)
- poster, 'Mosley Speaks on Race Relations' and 'Reply to Mosley' (produced by Oxford University Humanist Group) (1p) (January 1961)
- poster, 'The Challenge of Existentialism by H. J. Blackham' (produced by Oxford University Humanist Group) (1p) (January 1961) (3 copies)
- poster, 'St. Valentine's Day The New Morality of Sex by James Hemming' (produced by Oxford University Humanist Group) (1p) (February 1961)
- poster, 'The Necessity of Atheism - J. S. L. Gilmour' and 'The Fear of Freedom - Raghavan Iyer' (produced by Oxford University Humanist Group) (1p) (February 1961)
- membership card of the Oxford University Humanist Group for Trinity Term 1961 (4pp) (April 1961)
- poster, 'Social' (produced by Oxford University Humanist Group) (1p) (May 1961)
- poster, 'Archibald Robertson - Is Humanism Socially Committed?' and 'Policy Meeting' (produced by Oxford University Humanist Group) (1p) (May 1961)
- membership card of the Oxford University

Humanist Group for Michaelmas Term 1961
(4pp) (October 1961)
(1958-1961)

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BRIERLEY/1/2 Oxford University Humanist Group: 1962- 1962-1966

1966

Includes:

- membership card of the Oxford University Humanist Group for Hilary Term 1962 (4pp) (January 1962)
- membership card of the Oxford University Humanist Group for Trinity Term 1962 (4pp) (April 1962)
- membership card of the Oxford University Humanist Group for Michaelmas Term 1962 (8pp) (October 1958)
- 'The University Humanist Federation Bulletin,' with insert, 'Humanist Thought' questionnaire (29pp) (Autumn 1962)
- poster, Robert Graves, 'Superstition' (produced by Oxford University Humanist Group) (1p) (October 1962)
- press cutting from the 'Times,' 'Oxbridge Freshmen "Deluged" with Religious Tracts' (1p) (30 October 1962)
- poster, 'Prof. A. J. Ayer - Philosophy & Politics' (produced by Oxford University Humanist Group) (1p) (November 1962)
- poster, 'Sir Julian Huxley - the Humanist Revolution' (produced by Oxford University Humanist Group) (1p) (November 1962)
- poster, 'Marghanita Laski - Atheism and Religious Needs' (produced by Oxford University Humanist Group) (1p) (December 1962)
- poster, '... For God so Loved the World That...' (proof) (produced by Oxford University Humanist Group) (1p) (n.d.)
- 'Proceedings - University Humanist Federation Fourth Annual Conference' (16pp) (January 1963)
- press cutting from the 'Guardian,' 'Mission to Oxford Runs into Opposition' (1p) (11 February 1963)
- membership card of the Oxford University Humanist Group for Hilary Term 1963 (8pp) (January 1963)
- press cutting from the 'Guardian,' 'Humanist, Unmarried, Pregnant - Girl's Declaration of

Faith' (1p) (14 February 1963)
- press cutting from the 'Daily Express,'
'Unwed Mother's Letter Shocks Oxford' (1p)
(14 February 1963)
- membership card of the Oxford University
Humanist Group for Hilary Term 1964 (8pp)
(January 1964)
- membership card of the Oxford University
Humanist Group for Hilary Term 1965 (8pp)
(January 1965)
- pamphlet, 'Crime and Punishment' (produced
by University Humanist Federation) (11pp)
(Spring 1965)
- membership card of the Oxford University
Humanist Group for Michaelmas Term 1965
(8pp) (October 1965)
- membership card of the Oxford University
Humanist Group for Hilary Term 1966 (8pp)
(January 1966)
(1962-1966)

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- BRIERLEY/2 Birmingham Humanist Group 1965-1972**
- Papers regarding Tony Brierley's involvement with the Birmingham Humanist Group, including press cuttings, pamphlets, correspondence, publicity materials, and miscellaneous papers (1965-1972)
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- BRIERLEY/2/1 Birmingham Humanist Group 1965-1972**
- Includes:
- Birmingham Humanist Group programme February-July 1965 (4pp) (February 1965)
 - programme, "'Objections to Belief" - Stated by Humanists and Answered by Christians' (produced by St. George's Church, Edgbaston) (4pp) (March 1965)
 - press cutting from the 'Birmingham Planet,' 'History' regarding debate between Tony Brierley and the Bishop of Birmingham (1p) (8 April 1965)
 - letter from H. J. Blackham to Tony Brierley regarding copy of 'Birmingham Teachers' Journal' with article about religion in schools (1p) (31 March 1967)
 - pamphlet, 'Birmingham Teachers' Journal' (produced by the Birmingham Association of the NUT) (50pp) (Spring 1967)
 - Birmingham Humanist Group programme January-September 1970 (4pp) (January 1970)
 - Birmingham Humanist Group programme September 1970-February 1971 (4pp) (September 1970)
 - Birmingham Humanist Group programme February-August 1971 (4pp) (February 1971)
 - Birmingham Humanist Group programme February-June 1972 (4pp) (February 1972) (2 copies)
 - Birmingham Humanist Group programme September 1972-June 1973 (4pp) (September 1972) (1965-1972)
- OPEN**

BRIERLEY/3 Miscellaneous Papers**1904-
2000**

Miscellaneous papers relating to Tony Brierley's involvement in humanism and humanist groups, including: pamphlets, publicity material, correspondence, and miscellaneous papers (1904-2000)

OPEN**BRIERLEY/3/1 Miscellaneous Papers****1904-
2000**

Includes:

- pamphlet, 'Ethical Hymns - a Selection from the Ethical Hymn Books, reprinted for the Forest Gate Ethical Church for Use at the Services in Epping Forest' (20pp) (June 1904)
- pamphlet, 'The Plain View' (produced by the Ethical Union) (26pp) (January 1946)
- leaflet, 'Morals Without Religion by Margaret Knight' (4pp) (c1955)
- 'The Ethical Union. Report of the Enquiry Committee' (9pp) (August 1956)
- International Humanist and Ethical Union Second Congress, list of delegates (4pp) (1957)
- Advert, 'Appointment of a Group Organiser' (produced by the Ethical Union) (2pp) (December 1960)
- Advert for 'Group Organiser' job at the Ethical Union in the 'New Statesman' (1p) (1960)
- letter from H. J. Blackham to Tony Brierley offering Brierley to the post of Group Organiser at the Ethical Union (1p) (1961)
- pamphlet, 'The Humanist Group' by Tony Brierley (15pp) (September 1961)
- pamphlet, 'How to Make a Local Social Survey' by Tony Brierley (19pp) (March 1962)
- leaflet, 'The British Humanist Association' (4pp) (c1963)
- pamphlet, 'The Sufficiency of the World' (15pp) (June 1964)
- letter from BHA to Tony Brierley expressing thanks for Brierley's work on the occasion of his departure (1p) (8 August 1964)
- 'Rationalist Press Association Centenary Conference' list of names (1p) (June 1999)
- letter from Nigel Collins to Tony Brierley regarding humanist history and archives (1p) (21 October 2000)

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BRIERLEY/4 Photographs

**1963-
1999**

Photographs of members of Oxford University
Humanist Group and the Rationalist Press
Association (1963-1999)

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BRIERLEY/4/1 Photographs

1963-1999

Includes:

- photograph of members of Oxford University
Humanist Group (1963)
- photograph of delegates at Rationalist Press
Association conference (n.d.)
- photograph of delegates at Rationalist Press
Association conference (n.d.)
- photograph of delegates at Rationalist Press
Association conference (n.d.)
- photograph of delegates at Rationalist Press
Association conference (n.d.)
- photograph of delegates at Rationalist Press
Association conference (1999)

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