

Acc.13058
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Inventory

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Victoria League in Scotland

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Annual reports, 1912-2007, publicity material, c. 1951-2004, minutes, newsletters, and correspondence, 2001-2007, of the Victoria League in Scotland.

The Victoria League in Scotland was founded with the aim of promoting friendship and hospitality for Commonwealth visitors to Scotland, focussing in particular in later years on international students. Originally founded in 1907 as the Edinburgh Branch of the Victoria League for Commonwealth Friendship based in London, the Victoria League in Scotland later emerged to act as the governing body for the whole of Scotland.

The League, also latterly known as VL World Friendship, arranged for visitors to be welcomed into the homes of local volunteers, as well as organising larger-scale events throughout the year, such as ceilidhs, Burns' suppers and visits to locations across Scotland.

During the First World War, the Victoria League in Edinburgh extended its hospitality to Commonwealth servicemen on leave in Scotland, which included providing beds for 300,000 men and serving over 1 million meals by the end of the war. A similar service was provided again during the Second World War.

With the exception of the annual reports and some of the publicity material and photographs, the papers in this collection date from the early 21st century, and reflect primarily the activities of the Edinburgh office. The papers were received from the Edinburgh office, which finally closed in June 2009.

The records were received in a combination of electronic and paper formats, and have been arranged by their format for ease of access. However, this means that there is an overlap of different record series between electronic and paper formats.

Data protection principles may apply to some of the material marked with an asterix.

Presented, 2009.

1-5 ELECTRONIC FILES

- 1 Organisation
- 2 Annual reports
- 3 Events and publicity
- 4 Visiting students
- 5 Correspondence

6-19 PAPER FILES

- 6 Organisation and history
- 7 Annual reports
- 8-10 Newsletters
- 11-12 Events and publicity
- 13-15 Visitors' books
- 16 Correspondence
- 17-19 Photographs

1-5 ELECTRONIC FILES

1 Organisation

Includes the constitution, 1992, agendas and minutes for AGMs, and for Council, General Purposes Committee and Edinburgh Committee meetings, c. 2001-2005, correspondence of the Chairman, c. 2001-2007, papers relating to funding and to the general organisation of the Edinburgh office.

2 Annual reports, 2000-2004

3 Events and publicity

Publicity material and other papers relating to ceilidhs and coach trips in Scotland, 2002-2006.

4 Visiting students*

Including statistics relating to student visitors, papers relating to volunteers acting as 'Friends', and correspondence with universities and colleges, 2001-2005.

5 Correspondence, 2003-2005

6-19 PAPER FILES

6 Organisation and history

Documents relating to the organisation of the Victoria League in Scotland, including constitution and rules, and committee structure and governance, and 2 printed items on the history of the League in Scotland dating its 50th anniversary in 1957.

7 Annual reports

Annual reports of the Victoria League in Scotland, 1912-2007, except for the years 1922-1923, 1932-1933 and 1979-1980.

8-10 Newsletters

8 Newsletters of the Victoria League in Scotland, 1990-2001.

9 Newsletters of the Victoria League, issued by Headquarters in London, 1996-2007, along with a selection of annual reports, c. 1983-2003, and diaries of events, 2006-2009.

10 Newsletters of the Victoria League, Western Australia, 2003-2006.

11-12 Events and publicity

- 11 Miscellaneous publicity material for the Victoria League in Scotland, including recruitment for new members, advertising to attract overseas' students, press cuttings on the Victoria League, lapel pins, and an Australian League medal, 1924.

- 12 Hand painted posters, 1951-68 and undated, advertising welcome events and other activities organised by the Victoria League in Scotland for visiting students [outsized].

13-15 Visitors' books

- 13 Visitors' book, 1960-1989
- 14 Visitors' sign in book, 1940-1972
- 15 Suggestion book, 1954-1975.

16 Correspondence, c. 1989-2004

17-19 Photographs*

- 17 Photo album, mainly visit from Princess Elizabeth, c. 1940s

- 18 Set of slides, apparently for a presentation

- 19 3 folders of photographs, of various dates, c. 1940s-2007. Subjects include the interior of the club rooms and facilities, and of special visits, but the majority of images appear to have been taken on the numerous outings, ceilidhs and other gatherings arranged by the Victoria League in Scotland. The majority are photographic prints, but there are also a number of images stored on CD-ROM.