

Papers of the  
West Midland  
Liberal  
Federation

Reference:  
WMLF

## Papers of the West Midland Liberal Federation

WMLF

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1894-1962

Minutes, 1894-1935; cash books, 1894-1895; petty cash books with names of subscribers, 1894-1958; cash receipt books, 1947-1958; General Election papers, 1945-1959; press cuttings; Small Heath by-election papers, 1961; municipal elections papers, Birmingham, Sutton Coldfield, West Midland, 1962; Liberal Clubs in the West Midland region, 1950-1956; West Midland Young Liberals correspondence, 1950-1954; papers of monthly Federation and Executive Officers' meetings and Annual General Meetings, 1948-1960; miscellaneous correspondence and printed papers relating to general business, 1948-1961; and papers of the West Midland Women's Liberal Federation, 1948-1961.

**Administrative history:** The Midland Liberal Federation was formed at an inaugural meeting held in Birmingham on 23 May 1894. The meeting was attended by delegates from Derbyshire, Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire and Worcestershire. According to its rules and constitution of 1930, its primary object was "to create and maintain Liberal opinion and conviction by means of Meetings, Conferences, and discussions; to stimulate Liberal thought and ideas and to secure the co-operation of all persons in general sympathy with progressive politics".

The Federation worked with and assisted the affiliated Liberal Associations in the parliamentary constituencies within its geographical area. It also coordinated with other District Federations and with the National Liberal Federation. By 1930, the area of the Midland Federation no longer encompassed Gloucestershire and

## Papers of the West Midland Liberal Federation

Oxfordshire. The Federation appears to have been reconstituted as the West Midland Liberal Federation by 1947.

Reference: Minute books of the Midland Liberal Federation.

**Arrangement:** The collection is arranged chronologically within document types.

9 boxes

Access: Partially closed

**Access conditions:** Access to all registered researchers.

**Notes:** All records are open, except list of subscribers in WMLF/11, and list of members in WMLF/26 and WMLF/30. These lists of members have been removed from the main files and are closed under the Data Protection Act until 1st Jan 2028 (WMLF/11), and 2041 (parts of WMLF/26 and WMLF/30). See individual entries for further details.

**Copyright:** Permission to make any published use of any material from the collection must be sought in advance in writing from the Director of Special Collections (email: special-collections@bham.ac.uk). Identification of copyright holders of unpublished material is often difficult. Cadbury Research Library: Special Collections will assist where possible with identifying copyright owners, but responsibility for ensuring copyright clearance rests with the user of the material.

**Language:** English

**Acquisition:** This collection was deposited in 1967. There is also an additional deposit consisting of 11 cartons of unprocessed material

WMLF/1

Minute book

1894-1897

Minute books include a report of the

Papers of the West Midland Liberal Federation

	<p>provisional committee detailing notable attendees to the meeting, including the Prime Minister, the Earl of Rosebery.</p> <p>1 volume</p> <p>Access: Open</p>	
WMLF/2	<p>Minute book</p> <p>The committee changed from Provisional Committee to Executive Committee. The minute book includes statements of vote results, and a letter on Liberal policy.</p> <p>There is a gap in the minutes 1897-1908 between volumes WMLF/1 and WMLF/2. It is unknown if a minute book covering these years is missing.</p> <p>1 volume</p> <p>Access: Open</p>	1909-1915
WMLF/3	<p>Minute book</p> <p>1 volume</p> <p>Access: Open</p>	1915-1921
WMLF/4	<p>Minute book</p> <p>1 volume</p> <p>Access: Open</p>	1921-1926
WMLF/5	<p>Minute book</p> <p>Includes typed amendments to committee resolutions.</p> <p>1 volume</p> <p>Access: Open</p>	1926-1930
WMLF/6	<p>Minute book</p> <p>Includes leaflets about new rules and constitution.</p> <p>1 volume</p>	1930-1935

Papers of the West Midland Liberal Federation

	Access: Open	
WMLF/7	Cash book	1894-1895
	1 item	
	Access: Open	
WMLF/8	Ledger	1894-1895
	1 item	
	Access: Open	
WMLF/9	Petty cash book	Jan-Aug 1947
	1 item	
	Access: Open	
WMLF/10	Petty cash book	1947-1958
	1 item	
	Access: Open	
WMLF/11	List of subscribers	1944-1947
	This item lists names and addresses of subscribers and is closed until 1st Jan 2028.	
	1 item	
	Access: Closed	
	Closed until: 01/01/2028	
WMLF/12	Cash receipt book	1946-1948
	1 item	
	Access: Open	
WMLF/13	Cash receipt book	1954-1955
	1 item	
	Access: Open	
WMLF/14	Cash receipt book	1956

Papers of the West Midland Liberal Federation

	1 item	
	Access: Open	
WMLF/15	Cash receipt book	1956-1957
	1 item	
	Access: Open	
WMLF/16	Election addresses by candidates	1945
	File contains press cuttings and addresses by candidates of all parties during 1945 general elections.	
	1 file	
	Access: Open	
WMLF/17	Press cuttings - General Elections	1950
	File contains newspaper articles about the 1950 General Election. Also included in the file are lists of meetings held by the West Midland Liberal Federation during the election campaign, lists of Liberal candidates in Birmingham, and lists of Liberal committee rooms in Birmingham.	
	1 File	
	Access: Open	
WMLF/18	Press cuttings - General Elections	1951
	Contains newspaper articles about the 1951 General Election.	
	1 file	
	Access: Open	
WMLF/19	Election addresses by candidates	1959
	1 File	
	Access: Open	
WMLF/20	Press cuttings - General Elections	1959
	Contains newspaper articles, letters and	

Papers of the West Midland Liberal Federation

	leaflets pertaining to the 1959 General Election campaign.	
	1 file	
	Access: Open	
WMLF/21	Press cuttings - General Elections	1959
	1 file	
	Access: Open	
WMLF/22	Press cuttings - Small Heath by-election	1961
	Contains newspaper articles, letters and leaflets pertaining to the 1961 Small Heath by-election campaign.	
	1 file	
	Access: Open	
WMLF/23	Election addresses and press cuttings	1962
	Contains newspaper articles, letters and leaflets pertaining to the 1962 Sutton Coldfield municipal election campaign.	
	1 file	
	Access: Open	
WMLF/24	Election addresses and press cuttings	1962
	Contains newspaper articles, letters and leaflets pertaining to the 1962 Sutton Coldfield municipal election campaign.	
	1 file	
	Access: Open	
WMLF/25	Correspondence	1950-1956
	Includes letters, Liberal club copy of rules and list of Liberal clubs.	
	1 file	
	Access: Open	

Papers of the West Midland Liberal Federation

WMLF/26	Correspondence	1951-1956
	Includes press cuttings, and various letters.	
	Also includes lists of youth members, giving names and addresses. These lists have been removed from the main file, and are closed until 1st Jan 2041.	
	1 file	
	Access: Partially closed	
	<b>Notes:</b> Main file open. <b>List of members closed until 1st January 2041.</b>	
WMLF/27	Minutes and agendas of monthly federation executive and officers' meetings, and annual general meetings	1948-1961
	1 File	
	Access: Open	
WMLF/28	Miscellaneous correspondence	1947-1961
	1 File	
	Access: Open	
WMLF/29	West Midland Liberal Federation Women's Council minute book	1945-1947
	1 volume	
	Access: Open	
WMLF/30	West Midland Liberal Federation Women's Council minutes and annual reports	1950-1958
	Also contains an article written by Heather Harvey.	
	Also includes a list of Officers and Executive Representatives, giving names and addresses. <b>This list has been removed from the main file, and is closed until 1st Jan 2041.</b>	



## Papers of the West Midland Liberal Federation

1 file

Access: Partially closed

**Notes:** Main file open. **List of members closed until 1st January 2041.**