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# THE PAPERS OF THE POPPLEWELL INQUIRY INTO CROWD SAFETY AT SPORTS GROUNDS : collection description

*Special Collections, J.B. Priestley Library*

## REFERENCE CODE

GB 0532 POP

## TITLE

The Papers of the Popplewell Inquiry into Crowd Safety at Sports Grounds.

## DATES

(1924)-1985.

## LEVEL OF DESCRIPTION

Fonds.

## EXTENT

10 boxes.

## NAME OF CREATOR(S)

Sir Oliver Popplewell, 1927-, jurist.

## ADMINISTRATIVE/BIOGRAPHICAL HISTORY

Following the fire in 1985 at Valley Parade, Bradford City football stadium, an Inquiry chaired by Sir Oliver Popplewell was held under the Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975. In the light of this inquiry, and of the earlier disaster at Birmingham City football stadium, a Committee of Inquiry into Crowd Safety at Sports Grounds was set up. Sir Oliver Popplewell was selected to chair this committee. Submissions and evidence were gathered from interested parties, including the Fire Brigade, police, sociologists, football clubs and other sports associations. The Committee's Interim Report was published in July 1985 (Command Paper Cmnd 9585). Further evidence was received, including reports

from the tragedy at Brussels' Heysel stadium and the Final Report was published in 1986 (Command paper Cmnd 9710).

## **IMMEDIATE SOURCE OF ACQUISITION**

Donated by Sir Oliver Popplewell in 1999.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT**

Submissions to the Inquiry. Notes of oral evidence to the Inquiry. Notes of visits by the Committee to Edinburgh and Brussels. Report and witness statements from the Bradford City Inquiry. County Surveyor's report and police photographs from the wall collapse at Birmingham City. Documents concerning Heysel stadium disaster. Reports and articles on football hooliganism. Interim Report with drafts, press notices and photocopies of press cuttings. Drafts of Final Report.

## **SYSTEM OF ARRANGEMENT**

As arranged by the donor.

## **ACCESS CONDITIONS**

Available to researchers, by appointment. Access to archive material is subject to preservation requirements and must also conform to the restrictions of the Data Protection Act and any other appropriate legislation.

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## **LANGUAGE OF MATERIAL**

English.

## **FINDING AIDS**

Unpublished handlist.

## **ARCHIVIST'S NOTE**

Described by John Brooker.

## **RULES OR CONVENTIONS**

ISAD(G) 2nd ed.

## **DATE(S) OF DESCRIPTION**

25 June 2001.

## **INDEXING**

### **Persons**

Popplewell, Mr Justice

### **Corporate bodies**

Great Britain. Committee of Inquiry into Crowd Safety and Control at Sports Grounds

### **Subjects**

Bradford City A.F.C. – Fire, 1985  
Disasters – Belgium – Brussels  
Disasters – England – Birmingham  
Disasters – England – Bradford  
Fires - England – Bradford  
Soccer – Social aspects – Belgium  
Soccer - Social aspects – Great Britain  
Spectator control  
Sports facilities – Safety – Great Britain  
Stadia  
Violence in sports – Belgium – Brussels

### **Locations**

Birmingham – West Midlands – England  
Bradford – West Yorkshire – England  
Brussels – Belgium

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