

Local elections

The information available on local elections, election results and Liberal councillors is not yet well developed on Wikipedia. However, a good starting point is *United Kingdom local elections, 1998*. This page is the first in a series, which can be followed through to 2007, which shows the overall outcome for the parties in all local authority elections that took place each year (including mayoral contests where appropriate). Unfortunately, it does not provide details on individual ward results with information on candidates and votes.

• *London County Council* – One of the more useful pages about historical local authorities and elections, this article recites the

history of the London County Council (LCC) from its foundation in 1889 until its replacement in 1965 by the Greater London Council (GLC). It lists the leaders of the LCC, the first four of whom were Progressives (the name by which Liberal supporters were known) on the council in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. The pages entitled *Greater London Council* and *Greater London Authority* also contain information in elections or provide links to related pages. Alternatively you can go to *Category:Elections in London* for information about GLC, GLA and Mayoral elections in the capital from 1964 onwards.

You will tend to find that simply accessing a single article or

biography opens up dozens of other potential links to internal Wikipedia or external internet sites. But if the article or biography or other information you want is not in any of the pages recommended in this article or the links from them to other sites, just enter what you are looking for in the Wikipedia search box and see what comes up. If it cannot find an exact match it will give near misses or suggestions for similar pages. And, if whilst browsing through Wikipedia you find a gap in the Liberal history knowledge base about which you are an expert, why not log on and create some pages yourself?

Graham Lippiatt is Secretary of the Liberal Democrat History Group

THE PAPERS OF HERBERT SAMUEL AT THE PARLIAMENTARY ARCHIVES

HERBERT LOUIS Samuel (1870–1963), 1st Viscount Samuel, was born on 6 November 1870 in Liverpool. He was educated at University College School, London, 1884–88, and Balliol College, Oxford, 1889–93. He married Beatrice Miriam Franklin on 17 November 1897. He was Liberal MP for the Cleveland Division of Yorkshire 1902–18, and for the Darwen Division of Lancashire 1929–35.

Positions Samuel held include: Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department 1905–09; Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster 1909–10; Postmaster-General 1910–14; President of the Local Government Board 1914–15; again Postmaster-General and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster 1915–16; Home Secretary 1916, and again 1931–32; High Commissioner for Palestine 1920–25 and also Commander-in-Chief there 1922–25. For the Liberal Party he was Chairman of the

Liberal Party Organisation 1927–29; Chairman of the Liberal Parliamentary Party 1931–35; and Liberal Leader in the House of Lords 1944–55. On 8 June 1937, he was created Viscount Samuel of Mount Carmel and of Toxteth in the City of Liverpool. He died on 5 February 1963.

In 1963 the second Viscount Samuel, on behalf of his father's executors, deposited in the Parliamentary Archives the papers which now form series SAM/A–F. The Samuel papers cover his life and career from his childhood until the year of his death. Lord Samuel took care, so far as possible, to preserve intact both the personal and political letters, and also the papers which he received. In addition he kept drafts and copies of his own letters and made a practice of writing notes concerning any important events in which he had participated at the time when they occurred. The principal gaps in the collection are Departmental Papers (few of

which Lord Samuel retained) and Cabinet Papers which, with a few exceptions, he returned to the Cabinet Office.

The largest series is SAM/A – Herbert Samuel's papers relating to political matters, 1880–1962 (163 files). SAM/A consists of subject files and general political files including a great deal of material relating to the internal affairs of the Liberal Party, and correspondence with such prominent Liberals as Asquith, Herbert Gladstone, Lloyd George, Runciman, Reading, Crewe, Lothian, Lady Oxford, Archibald Sinclair and (overseas) W. L. Mackenzie King. There is also correspondence with Fabians and Labour leaders such as the Webbs, George Bernard Shaw, Graham Wallas, Ramsay Macdonald, Snowden and Charles Trevelyan. Particularly notable are the files relating to the Marconi Contract (SAM/A/38–9), Irish Affairs 1911–16 (SAM/A/41), the formation of the Coalition Government,

1915 (SAM/A/48), the Royal Commission on the Coal Industry and the General Strike (SAM/A/66), the Lloyd George Fund (SAM/A/71), the formation of the National Government (SAM/A/78), the National Government and the general election, 1931 (SAM/A/81-2), the 'Agreement to Differ' on tariffs (SAM/A/96), the Abdication Crisis (SAM/A/101), the Munich Crisis (SAM/A/110) and the proposal for the Joint Select Committee on Colonial Affairs, 1942-45 (SAM/A/121).

The other series are as follows:
 SAM/B – Personal papers, including material relating to Samuel's childhood, family, acquaintances, social activities and awards, 1871-1962 (22 files).
 SAM/C – Photographs and sketches, 1870-1961 (96 files).
 SAM/D – Press cuttings, 1888-1961 (5 boxes).
 SAM/E – Literary, philosophical and scientific papers, 1885-1962 (83 files).
 SAM/F – Grants of office and ceremonial records, 1906-59 (54 files).

Since 1963, additional material has been received and catalogued in further series as SAM/G-SAM/L. This includes leaflets and pamphlets, additional personal and political correspondence, and further literary, philosophical and scientific papers. There are also photocopies of material concerning Israel and Jewish matters (SAM/H); the original papers are deposited in the Israeli State Archives.

The Samuel Papers are all fully catalogued to file level, and can be searched for

online at: <http://www.portcullis.parliament.uk>. Enter SAM in the RefNo field to restrict a search to the Samuel Papers.

The Samuel Papers are open for consultation Monday – Friday, 9.30-5.00, at the Parliamentary Archives, Houses of Parliament, London SW1A 0PW. Please phone 020 7219 3074 or email archives@parliament.uk to make an appointment and order up the material you require. Practical information on visiting can be found at <http://www.parliament.uk/archives>.

LIBERAL HISTORY QUIZ 2009

This year's Liberal history quiz attracted a fair amount of attention at the History Group's exhibition stand at the Liberal Democrat conference in Bournemouth in September. The winner was Michael Mullaney, with a highly impressive 20 marks out of 20. Below we reprint the questions – the answers are on page 41.

1. Sir Archibald Sinclair was leader of the Liberal Party from 1935-45. Which constituency did he represent throughout his Parliamentary career?
2. In the general election of 1922, what description did those Liberals who supported outgoing Prime Minister David Lloyd George take to distinguish themselves from the official Liberals of H. H. Asquith?
3. Which Liberal Prime Minister was a former pupil of the High School of Glasgow?
4. Name all five candidates who contested the 1999 election to succeed Paddy Ashdown as leader of the Liberal Democrats.
5. In 1951, Clement Davies was offered a cabinet post by Winston Churchill. He turned it down, probably saving the Liberal Party from extinction. What post was he offered?
6. Who did Nick Clegg succeed as MP for Sheffield Hallam in 2005?
7. What diplomatic post was held by Sir Herbert Samuel in 1920-25?
8. Before becoming MP for Orkney & Shetland in 1950, Jo Grimond worked as the secretary of which conservation charity for the protection and promotion of Scotland's natural and cultural heritage?
9. Which former Liberal MP was described by Mr Justice Cantley as 'a crook, an accomplished liar ... a fraud' at the Jeremy Thorpe conspiracy to murder trial in 1979?
10. H. H. Asquith (1st Earl of Oxford and Asquith) died in 1928. Where is he buried?
11. What is the name of David Lloyd George's boyhood home, now part of the Lloyd George Museum in Llanystumdwy, which has been recreated to appear as it was in the nineteenth century?
12. A monument to which Liberal Prime Minister stands outside the west front of St Clement Danes Church in The Strand in London?
13. Who was the 'spectacled, sallow, sombre' Birmingham draper who was the first secretary of the newly formed National Liberal Federation after 1877?
14. To the statue of which Liberal did the suffragist Millicent Garret Fawcett lead a delegation of women, and lay a wreath in memory, after women had achieved the same voting rights as men, in 1928?
15. Who was the Liberal candidate at the Brierley Hill by-election of 27 April 1967?
16. Which great Radical politician and campaigner was Liberal MP for Birmingham 1857-85?
17. How many women served as Liberal MPs between 1918 and 1988?
18. Who was the only Liberal to be elected to the Northern Ireland House of Commons in the whole of its history from 1921 to 1973?
19. Which Gladstonian Liberal, MP for Newcastle was appointed Chief Secretary for Ireland in February 1886, only to lose the job when the Liberal government fell over the question of Irish Home Rule five months later, in July 1886?
20. What was described by the National Liberal Party magazine in 1942 as 'absolutely contrary and opposed to Liberalism and which, if adopted, would be Hitler's last triumph, for Britain would then become a completely totalitarian state'?