

MIDLOTHIAN COUNCIL ARCHIVES

THE DAVID SHARP COLLECTION

GB584/DS/1-9

Name of creator

The Sharp family of Loanhead.

Biographical history

Most of the items in this collection belonged to Mr David Sharp (1900–1981) and his family.

The Sharp family had a long connection with Loanhead. David's father worked at Springfield paper mill until he was injured. He then spent a short time as a warder at Rosslynlee Hospital. He wrote newspaper articles about his work and places of interest in the local area. He established a successful business selling household china from a horse and cart. The Sharp family lived at 4 High Street, Loanhead which later was the site of Loanhead Post Office.

His son, David Sharp, was a good school student and at fourteen years old he took a job at the British Linen Bank, 95 Clerk Street, Loanhead. He later moved to the bank's head office at St Andrew Square, Edinburgh where he reached the position of head clerk. In total, he worked with the bank for over fifty years and from 1930 he lived in a flat above the Loanhead branch. This property included a large garden that extended to Hunter's Garage, something that brought David and his family great pleasure over the years. He retired in 1965 and later worked as a part-time book-keeper with Hunter's Coaches, Loanhead.

As a young boy he trained in semaphore and was conscripted into the Army in 1918. He served as a signaller in the Highland Light Infantry and in the British Army of the Rhine from March 1919. However, his military service was curtailed for family reasons. His elder brother, Alexander, a pharmacist, caught Spanish Influenza and his mother was bedridden with arthritis so David was given special dispensation to return home. Between the wars, he was a principal in productions of the Loanhead Station Ironworks Choir, where he painted scenery and helped with stage make-up. He was organist at Loanhead West Church, a loyal church elder and helped to organise a children's choir.

In 1949, he married Elizabeth (Betty) Robertson, who also worked at the British Linen Bank in St Andrew Square. The couple met while fire watching at the bank premises during the Second World War. Although an incomer to Loanhead, Betty became a stalwart member of the Women's Rural Institute and later treasurer. She helped to establish the Over Sixties Club in Loanhead and was organiser of the WRVS 'Meals on Wheels' service. In 1952, their daughter Janet Helen (Janelen) was born. She attended local schools and was a member of the Brownies and Girl Guides as well as church organisations. In 1964, she was Mistress of the Robes at Loanhead Children's Gala Day. She studied at the University of Edinburgh and

became a teacher. David died suddenly at home on 9 June 1981 and Betty on 19 February 1990. Both are buried in Loanhead Cemetery.

Physical description

One box.

Scope and content

13 photographs of David Sharp and his colleagues of the Highland Light Infantry during the First World War and the British Army occupation of the Rhineland, c.1919; postcard book souvenirs of the Rhineland and Germany, c.1919; photographs of Loanhead, inc. a series taken from the window of 95 Clerk Street, Loanhead; 6 photographs of Loanhead Children's Gala Day, inc. 3 photographs of children, c.1958; interior photograph of Loanhead East Church and certificate; misc. programmes, photographs and sketches of scenery backdrops from Loanhead Station Ironworks Choir, c.1925; 8 photographs of the Loanhead Girl Guides visit to Dalum, Denmark c.1966; newspaper cuttings of Loanhead groups; and miscellaneous items, inc. programmes, brochures, letters and receipts.

Archival history

The collection was donated to Midlothian Local and Family History Library by Janet Storey in August 2015.

System of arrangement

Ref	Subject	Date
DS/1	Military photographs	1918–c.1920
DS/2	Souvenirs of the Rhineland and Germany	1918–c.1920
DS/3	Loanhead photographs	1914–1970
DS/4	Loanhead Children's Gala Day	1932–c.1958
DS/5	Loanhead East Church	c.1958
DS/6	Loanhead Station Ironworks Choir	1922–c.1931
DS/7	Loanhead Girl Guides	c.1966
DS/8	Newspaper cuttings	c.1963–c.1966
DS/9	Miscellaneous	1844–1970

Access

There are no restrictions on access to the collection.

Conditions governing use

None.

Related materials

None.

DS/1	<p>Military Photographs.</p> <p>A series of military photographs and postcards of David Sharp and his army colleagues during the First World War and the British Army occupation of the Rhineland (1919–20).</p> <p>13 items.</p>	1918– c.1920
/1	<p>Signed portrait postcard of David Sharp in uniform of Highland Light Infantry.</p> <p>Inscription on rear: 'Taken 18/9/1918'.</p> <p>1 postcard: sepia: 8.5 x 14 cm.</p>	18 Sept. 1918
/2	<p>Signed portrait postcard of David Sharp in uniform of Highland Light Infantry.</p> <p>Inscription on rear: 'Taken 25/4/19 by Wilhelm Guldenring, Kaiserstrasse 196, Solingen, Rhineland, Germany'.</p> <p>1 postcard: sepia: 8.5 x 14 cm.</p>	25 Apr. 1919
/3	<p>David Sharp in uniform of Highland Light Infantry.</p> <p>1 photo: b&w: 7.5 x 8.5 cm.</p>	c.1919
/4	<p>Signed and dated portrait postcard of John Menzies in uniform of Highland Light Infantry.</p> <p>1 postcard: sepia: 8.5 x 14 cm.</p>	6 May 1919
/5	<p>Signed and dated portrait postcard of A. Anderson in uniform of Highland Light Infantry.</p> <p>1 postcard: sepia: 8.5 x 14 cm.</p>	8 May 1919
/6	<p>Postcard portrait of Sig. A. Smith in uniform of Highland Light Infantry. Inscribed and dated on rear.</p> <p>1 postcard: sepia: 8.5 x 14 cm.</p>	1919
/7	<p>Man and dog with huts in background.</p> <p>1 photo: b&w: 9 x 12 cm.</p>	c.1920
/8	<p>Dog with buildings in background.</p> <p>1 photo: b&w: 9 x 12 cm.</p>	c.1920
/9	<p>Unidentified soldier in uniform.</p> <p>1 photo: sepia: 7 x 10 cm.</p>	c.1920
/10	<p>Four unidentified soldiers in uniform.</p> <p>1 photo; b&w: 12.5 x 9 cm.</p>	c.1920

/11/1-3	<p>Group photograph, two versions of same event: 'Members of No. 2 and 5a courses at 192 Inf. Bde. Signalling Course, Upfield Park, Cromer comprising men from [unreadable] 52nd HLI, 51st and 52nd [unreadable] and 52nd Queens [unreadable] at their billet West Lawn Corner, 1 Feb. 1919'.</p> <p>3 items. 1 photo, mounted on card: b&w: 30 x 25 cm, inscribed on rear. 2 postcards: b&w: 13.5 x 9.5 cm.</p>	1 Feb. 1919
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DS/2	<p>Souvenirs of Germany.</p> <p>These items were probably collected by David Sharp during the British military occupation of the Rhineland after the First World War.</p> <p>5 items.</p>	c.1920
/1	<p>20 Der Schönsten Ansichten von Köln a. Rhein.</p> <p>Colour postcards of Cologne and the Rhineland.</p> <p>1 item.</p>	c.1920
/2	<p>20 Der Rhein von Mainz bis Köln.</p> <p>Colour postcards of the Rhineland.</p> <p>1 item.</p>	c.1920
/3	<p>Der Rhein von Mainz Bis Köln.</p> <p>Colour map of the Rhineland.</p> <p>1 item.</p>	c.1920
/4	<p>Tommy bei uns.</p> <p>Comic silhouette postcards of Scottish soldiers in Germany.</p> <p>1 item.</p>	c.1920
/5	<p>10 Pfennig ticket.</p> <p>1 item.</p>	July 1918

DS/3	Loanhead Photographs. 10 items.	1914– 1970
/1	Postcard of a group of school children with notice '1914 Loanhead T69 Series 1'. David Sharp is second from right on back row. 1 postcard: sepia: 13 x 8 cm.	1914
/2	David Sharp and Ben Kinsley outside the British Linen Bank, 95 Clerk Street, Loanhead. 1 reproduction of original photo: b&w: 16 x 21.5 cm.	c.1915
/3	Aerial view of the centre of Loanhead, c.1963. With Despatch Note from Aerofilms and Aero Pictorial Ltd. 1 photo: b&w: 24.5 x 20 cm.	c.1963
/4	The British Linen Bank, Loanhead. 1 photo: b&w: 9 x 6 cm.	n.d.
/5	Malcolm Hunter, unknown, Kathy Hunter, David Sharp and George Hunter outside the office of William Hunter's Coaches, Loanhead, c.1968. 1 photo: colour: 9 x 9 cm.	c.1968
/6/1–5	4 photographs taken from the window of 95 Clerk Street, Loanhead showing shops, hoardings with advertising, and a bus with passengers. 4 photos: b&w: 13 x 9 cm.	c.1970
/7	Garden at rear of British Linen Bank building, 95 Clerk Street, Loanhead. David Sharp lived in the house above the bank and tended the garden for over fifty years. 1 photo: colour: 12.5 x 9 cm.	n.d.

DS/4	Loanhead Children's Gala Day. 6 items.	1932– c.1958
/1	Loanhead Children's Gala Day Queen Isabella Young, 1932. 1 photo in card wallet: sepia: 8 x 13 cm.	1932
/2	Crowning platform at Loanhead Children's Gala Day, 1932, with Gala Day Queen Isabella Young. 1 photo: b&w: 13 x 8.5 cm.	30 July 1932
/3	Mrs G. Eyers and her daughter Margaret at the Crowning of the Loanhead Gala Queen, 1952. Girls from Pentland School in background. Mrs Eyers was married to a local butcher. She did accounts in the shop and was well known in Loanhead. 1 photo: b&w: 8.5 x 11.5 cm.	14 June 1952
/4/1–3	Three photographs of Primary One-age children at Loanhead Children's Gala Day, c.1958. Ellen Henderson (?), David Wilson, David Wilson, unknown Grant, Joyce Grant, unknown, John Thomson, Janelen Sharp. David Wilson, unknown Grant, Joyce Grant, unknown x 4, John Thomson, Stewart Skirving, Janelan Sharp, unknown x 2, Moira Ferguson. Unknown, John Thomson, unknown x 2, Stewart Skirving, Janelen Sharp, Margaret Russell, unkwn x 2, Moira Ferguson.	c.1958

DS/5	East Church, Loanhead. 2 items.	c.1958
/1	Children at Harvest Thanksgiving Festival, East Church, Loanhead, c.1958. 1 photo: b&w: 14 x 9 cm.	c.1958
/2	Certificate to Janelen Sharp wishing her friendly greetings and good wishes on her fifth birthday from Loanhead East Church Sunday School. 1 item.	n.d.

DS/6	Loanhead Station Ironworks Choir. 22 items.	1922– c.1931
/1	Programme of Grand Concert of the Loanhead Station Ironworks Choir held in the Territorial Hall, Loanhead, 25 Jan. 1922. 1 item.	25 Jan. 1922
/2	Postcard of the Loanhead Station Ironworks Choir and Orchestra. 1 item.	c.1925
/3/1–10	10 postcards of characters in costume from productions by Loanhead Station Ironworks Choir. 10 items.	c.1925
/4	Mounted photograph of Loanhead Station Ironworks Choir in costume of stage. 1 photo, mounted on card: b&w: 30 x 25 cm.	c.1925
/5/1–3	Mounted photograph [3 copies] of Loanhead Station Ironworks Choir in costume of stage. 3 photos, mounted on card: b&w: 30 x 25 cm.	c.1925
/6	History of the Loanhead Station Ironworks Choir by David Sharp. Single sheet.	c.1925
/7/1–5	Five colour sketches by David Sharp of scenery backdrops from productions by Loanhead Station Ironworks Choir. 5 items.	c.1925

DS/7	<p>Loanhead Girl Guides.</p> <p>A series of photographs of the Loanhead Girl Guides made a visit to Loanhead's twin town Dalum, Denmark c.1966. The party stayed in a local school and visited the local area.</p> <p>8 photos.</p>	c.1966
/1	<p>Loanhead Girl Guides at the fountain, Frederiksborg Castle, Denmark.</p> <p>Front; Margaret Russell, Pamela Ingram, Lesley Stewart, Janelen Sharp, Anne Bourhill. Back: Angela Stewart, Mrs Stephen, unknown, unknown, Margaret Stephen, Margaret Whytock, Mrs McGillveray, Mara Stewart.</p> <p>1 photo: b&w: 10.5 x 7.5 cm.</p>	c.1966
/2	<p>Loanhead Girl Guides at the fountain, Frederiksborg Castle, Denmark.</p> <p>Front: Margaret Russell, Pamela Ingram, Lesley Stewart, Senga Laidlaw, Janelen Sharp, Anne Bourhill, unknown. Back: Angela Stewart, Mrs Stephen, unknown, unknown, Margaret Stephen, unknown Whytock, Mrs McGillveray, Mara Stewart, unknown.</p> <p>1 photo: b&w: 10.5 x 7.5 cm.</p>	c.1966
/3	<p>Loanhead Girl Guides Frederiksborg Castle, Denmark.</p> <p>Front: Mrs Stephen and Mrs McGillveray.</p> <p>1 photo: b&w: 10.5 x 7.5 cm.</p>	c.1966
/4	<p>Loanhead Girl Guides outside a cafe.</p> <p>Front: Pamela Ingram, Angela Stewart, Margaret Russell, Lesley Stewart, Janelen Sharp, Mara Stewart. Back: Mrs Stephenn, Mrs McGillveray.</p> <p>1 photo: b&w: 10.5 x 7.5 cm.</p>	c.1966
/5	<p>Loanhead Girl Guides practice country dancing inside a school.</p> <p>The two dancers are Lesley Stewart and Anne Bourhill.</p> <p>1 photo: b&w: 10.5 x 7.5 cm.</p>	c.1966
/6	<p>Loanhead Girl Guides practice country dancing inside a school.</p>	c.1966

	<p>The two dancers are Adeline Peacock and Mrs Stephen.</p> <p>1 photo: b&w: 10.5 x 7.5 cm.</p>	
/7	<p>Loanhead Girl Guides practice country dancing inside a school.</p> <p>The two dancers are Janelen Sharp and Angela Stewart.</p> <p>1 photo: b&w: 10.5 x 7.5 cm.</p>	c.1966
/8	<p>Loanhead Girl Guides at bus with Janelen Sharp and Mara Stewart, Mrs Stephen inside bus.</p> <p>1 photo: b&w: 10.5 x 7.5 cm.</p>	c.1966

DS/8	Newspaper Cuttings. 3 items.	c.1963– c.1966
/1	Loanhead Junior Secondary School (Loanhead Primary School) concert held in Loanhead Town Hall, c.1963. Back: Marilyn Duncan, Joanne Henderson, Pamlea Cobben, unknown, unknown, Margaret Russell, Christine Melvin, unknown. Front: Isabel Brownwright, Janelen Sharp, Elaine Smith, Senga Laidlaw, Jim Smith. 1 item.	c.1963
/2	Loanhead Company of Girl Guides win the County Banner, c.1966. Back: Meg unknown, unknown Haggart, Angela Stewart, Margaret Stephen, Mrs Stephen, Pamela Ingram, unknown, Margaret Whytock, Dorothy Duncan. Front: Senga Ladlaw, unknown, Katherine Bourhill, Margaret Russell, unknown, Janelen Sharp. 1 item.	c.1966
/3	Kevock Choir wins 'Evening News' trophy at the Edinburgh Musical Competition. 1 item.	n.d.

DS/9	Miscellaneous. 16 items.	1844– 1970
/1	Receipt to Alex Gibson, 40 St Andrews St., Edinburgh for Assessed Taxes [inc. windows and dogs], 25 July 1844. 1 item.	25 July 1844
/2	Programme of Music for Grand Crysanthemum Exhibition, Waverley Market, Edinburgh 19–21 Nov. 1908. 1 item.	Nov. 1908
/3/1–2	Invoice to Mr D. Sharp, Loanhead, from William Hunter, Haulage Contractor and Coal Merchant re: hire of car for wedding, and receipt to Mr D. Sharp. 2 items.	19 May 1949 & 25 July 1949
/4	Souvenir Programme of 'The Quaker Girl' by Musselburgh Amateur Musical Association, Community Centre, Musselburgh, 12–16 Apr. 1955. 1 item.	12–16 Apr. 1955
/5/1–4	Letter to David Sharp, 95 Clerk Street, Loanhead from Midlothian County County re: details and info. for his daughter, Janet H. Sharp, starting school. 4 items.	21 June 1957
/6	List of charges for telephone calls from local exchanges, 1958. 1 item.	1 Jan. 1958
/7/1–2	'Television – It's Wonderful!': brochure supplied by D. Robertson, 8 the Loan, Loanhead. 2 items.	c.1960
/8/1–3	Two letters from Town Clerk, Burgh of Loanhead re; Burgh Market and Christmas Illuminations, with note on Loanhead market. 3 items.	17 Sept. 1970, 11 Dec. 1970
/9	Paper bag (part missing) with printed details of Alex Dunlop, Baker and Confectioner, 67 Clerk St., Loanhead. 1 item.	n.d.

DS/10	Additional item	
	Loanhead WRVS Golden Jubilee, 1968. 1 item.	1968