

PAPERS OF GEMMA HUSSEY

P179



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CONTEXT

Biographical History

Gemma Hussey nee Moran was born on 11 November 1938. She grew up in Bray, Co. Wicklow and was educated at the local Loreto school and by the Sacred Heart nuns in Mount Anville, Goatstown, Co. Dublin. She obtained an arts degree from University College Dublin and went on to run a successful language school along with her business partner Maureen Concannon from 1963 to 1974. She is married to Dermot (Derry) Hussey and has one son and two daughters.

Gemma Hussey has a strong interest in arts and culture and in 1974 she was appointed to the board of the Abbey Theatre serving as a director until 1978. As a director Gemma Hussey was involved in the development of policy for the theatre as well as attending performances and reviewing scripts submitted by playwrights. In 1977 she became one of the directors of TEAM, (the Irish Theatre in Education Group) an initiative that emerged from the Young Abbey in September 1975 and founded by Joe Dowling. It was aimed at bringing theatre and theatre performance into the lives of children and young adults.

Gemma Hussey has maintained a lifelong commitment to equality and social justice. Her involvement with the women's movement in the 1970s and 1980s demonstrates her leadership in this area. She, along with Nuala Fennell, Audrey Conlon, Hilary Pratt and Phil Moore, was one of the founding members of the Women's Political Association [WPA]. She was elected Chair of the WPA in 1973. The aim of the association was to influence public opinion on the importance of gender balance amongst public representatives, to pressurise political parties and to encourage women to run for public office. The WPA operated with very limited resources and relied on teams of women volunteering in local branches to promote the objectives of the association. Between 1976 and 1977 the WPA compiled and circulated a questionnaire to all Dáil Deputies to elicit information about their attitude to the major issues affecting Irish women. The information was sought by the WPA so that their members could make informed decisions about who they would support in a general election. Gemma Hussey was also a founding member of the National Women's Talent Bank which sought to maintain a register of women suitable to serve on public boards and commissions. She was a delegate to the Council for the Status of Women, an umbrella group with representatives of most women's organisations in Ireland

From 1977 to 1982 Gemma Hussey served as a Senator elected by the National University of Ireland panel. During her first term she sat as an independent, and, as such, she brought the first Oireachtas bill on rape—including marital rape—to the House as a private member's bill. In 1980 she joined the Fine Gael Parliamentary Party and became the party's first spokesperson on Women's Affairs. She went on to become the Government Leader in the Seanad.

Gemma Hussey was elected to Dáil Éireann as a TD for the Wicklow constituency in February 1982 having narrowly missed out on a seat in the general election held in June 1981. She was appointed as the opposition spokesperson on Broadcasting, Arts and Culture. She held her seat at the next general election in November 1982 and was appointed in the Fine Gael-Labour coalition government as Ireland's first female Minister for Education from 1982 to 1986. After a cabinet reshuffle she briefly served as Minister for Social Welfare and Minister for Labour.

Throughout her public and political life Gemma Hussey was a liberal and a feminist. She was a strong supporter of legislating for divorce in Ireland and campaigned vigorously in favour of a yes vote in the 1986 referendum. She also supported the liberalisation of Ireland's abortion ban. Her commitment to equality, diversity and social justice is demonstrated through her membership and support of many organisations and advocacy groups. She campaigned, along with many other public figures and leading academics to save the Viking archaeological site at Wood Quay. In 1979 she was invited to serve on the Commission of Enquiry into the Irish Penal System and contributed to the final report of the Commission published in 1980. She was a member of the Working Party on Women in Broadcasting and presented a submission in 1981 to the RTÉ Authority and senior management on the stereotyping of women in the media, sexism and gender imbalance in Irish broadcasting. Gemma Hussey also lent her support to the very early protagonists who sought to establish multi-denominational, co-educational schools under a democratic management structure known as Dalkey School Project (DSP). DSP faced an uphill struggle in order to establish such a school. They received much needed support from the Fianna Fáil Government and the Minister for Education John Wilson, 1977–81, a notable supporter of the enterprise. Gemma Hussey opened the new school building for the DSP in 1983.

Gemma Hussey decided to stand down from Irish politics in 1989 and announced her decision not to be a candidate at the following election. She was appointed by the President, Dr Patrick Hillery, to the Council of State in September of the same year. She has remained engaged with a range of voluntary groups both social and cultural. She writes and participates in debate and discussion on a wide range of subjects and has maintained a particularly strong engagement with European affairs, in particular the European Women's Foundation which she co-founded in 1990. She was approached by two Italian women Ambra Poli and Federica Olivares, to help establish an organization to help encourage women across Europe to set up organizations to assist women's development in many different ways. Gemma agreed to take the (voluntary) position of Director of the European Women's Foundation [EWF] and set up the EWF's office in her home in Dublin. At the same time, the 'iron curtain' began to fall, and as communications with the former Soviet Union countries became possible, it was decided that the EWF would turn its attention to women in those former Communist countries.

Gemma designed a workshop formula to reach out to women in central and eastern Europe. The workshop model concentrated on how women in these countries could become accustomed to, and use, the tools of normal democracies to improve the progress of their countries and to ensure that women had a voice and a capability of playing their part in their developing democracies. Gemma ran these workshops across the region, with WPA colleagues Hilary Pratt, Mavis Arnold, Frances Gardiner, Audrey Conlon. Between 1992 and 2006, they worked in Romania, Latvia, Slovakia, Moldova, Bulgaria, and to a lesser extent in Lithuania, Croatia and Slovenia.

Apart from travelling to these countries, the EWF also brought women from the region to Ireland, where accommodation was arranged in student apartments at University College Dublin. The groups met NGOs, politicians, media personnel, and government Ministers. A highlight of several visits was a private reception in Áras an Uachtaráin given by President Mary Robinson, and later, President Mary McAleese.

Funds were raised from the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs, the EU PHARE programme, and from many generous private and business sponsors. The communications expert Terry Prone gave considerable help and support on a 'pro bono' basis. The EWF Foundation ceased operating in 2006, having achieved many of its aims.

Gemma also worked from time to time during this period with the British 50/50 group (founder Lesley Abdela), and with Project Parity (President, Shirley Williams).

In parallel with her work in eastern Europe, Gemma undertook a range of voluntary activity in other fields. She became the first Chair of the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre Board, where she served from 1989–96. She served as Chair of Opera Theatre Company from 1989–96. She became the Chair of the Ireland Romania Cultural Foundation which worked to establish and improve relations between Ireland and Romania in the cultural field. Among its activities were exchange visits with Romanian Universities, the encouragement of visual art exchanges with Irish and Romanian artists and galleries and many other activities. For her work, the Romanian Government honoured her with the honour of Commander of the Order of Merit of Romania. She served on the Board of the Coombe Women's Hospital and served as its Vice Chair and Chair. She served on the Board of St Patrick's Hospital in Dublin. She was a founder member and Board member of the Wagner Society of Ireland. In 1999, she helped found the Ireland branch of the International Women's Forum, and became its first President, 2000–2002.

Archival History

Deposited by Gemma Hussey in 2000.

CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

Scope and Content

Letter of appointment to the Board of the National Theatre Society Ltd (the Abbey Theatre), July 1974.

Minutes, agendas, accounts, correspondence, memoranda, lists of plays relating to the work of the Board of the Abbey Theatre, 1974–78.

Minutes and agendas of the AGM of the National Theatre Society, 1973–78.

Notes, correspondence, reports, memoranda, accounts relating to the establishment and administration of TEAM (Irish Theatre in Education group), c1972–1980.

Copies of scripts submitted by playwrights to the board of the Abbey Theatre for consideration, [1974–81].

Substantial files of correspondence, press releases, information literature, minutes of meetings, reports concerning the foundation and working of the Women's Political Association, 1973–81.

Notes, drafts of questionnaires, completed questionnaires, correspondence, analysis concerning the Political Questionnaire compiled by the WPA, 1976–77.

Minutes of meetings, reports, press releases, correspondence relating to the work of the Council for the Status of Women, [1973]–80.

Correspondence, minutes of meetings, notes, register relating to the National Women's Talent Bank, 1974–78.

Circulars, newsletter, copies of newspaper cuttings, correspondence concerning the establishment of Dalkey School Project, 1974–80 and Bray School Project Association, 1978–81.

Notes, correspondence, copies of reports, published articles relating to the Working Party on Women in Broadcasting, 1974–81. Includes a draft and a copy of the submission to the RTE Authority entitled 'Women and RTE—A Question of Balance', November 1980.

Files relating to the organisations and advocacy groups which Gemma Hussey supported, 1970s–1980s.

Campaign literature, copies of press releases, publicity, extensive files of correspondence concerning Gemma Hussey's campaign and election to Seanad Éireann, first term, 1977–81 and second term, 1981–82.

Files relating to policy and legislation before the Seanad including files on Northern Ireland, 1977–78, Wood Quay, 1978–80, Children's Rights and Illegitimacy, 1978–81, Tax Reform, 1977–78, Abolition of the Death Penalty (Criminal Justice Bill), 1981, Criminal Law (Rape) Bill, 1980.

Letter of invitation to become a member of the Commission of Enquiry into the Irish Penal System and minutes of meetings of the Commission, correspondence, background material, 1979–80. Copy of the final report of the Commission, 1980.

Diary of her visit to the USA following her selection by the US government to participate in the International Visitor Programme, 1980.

Copies of press releases issued by Senator Gemma Hussey in her capacity as Fine Gael spokesperson on Women's Affairs, 1980–81.

Policy documents relating to Fine Gael party policy 1979–87 including files of notes, press releases, literature, notes, correspondence on women's issues and gender equality, 1979–81 and the Eighth Amendment, 1981–84.

Files of notes, correspondence, reports, copies of agendas and minutes relating to the 'Tuesday Morning Meetings', chaired by Derry Hussey and held in the Taoiseach's (Garret FitzGerald) office to formulate policy and strategies for the government and general and European elections, [1981]–84 and 1986–89.

Newsletters, correspondence, notes, campaign literature concerning Gemma Hussey's Wicklow Constituency, 1982–86.

Reports, publicity, correspondence, memoranda relating to Gemma Hussey's ministry in the Department of Education, 1982–87. Series of publications relating to Curriculum Development, 1984–86.

Photographs relating to Gemma Hussey's public life including family photographs used for publicity, 1978; 1983, publicity portraits, 1970s and 1980s, as a TD, 1982–83, Minister for Education, 1982–86.

System of arrangement

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CONDITIONS OF ACCESS AND USE

Access

Available by appointment to holders of a UCDA reader's ticket. Produced for consultation in digital format.

Language

English

Finding Aid

Descriptive Catalogue

DESCRIPTION CONTROL

Archivist's Note

Descriptive catalogue prepared by Orna Somerville, January 2016

ALLIED MATERIALS

Allied Collections in UCD Archives

P39 Fine Gael Party Archives
P215 Garret FitzGerald Papers

Published Material

Gemma Hussey, *At the Cutting Edge Cabinet Diaries 1982–87* (Dublin: Gill & MacMillan: 1990)
Gemma Hussey, *Ireland Today: Anatomy of a Changing State* (Dublin: Town House, 1993)

1 EARLY CAREER

1.1 Language School 1965–66

P179/1 7 June 1965–3 February 1966

10pp

English Language Studies School

File of mostly copies of newspaper cuttings concerning the English Language Studies School established in Dublin by Maureen Concannon and Gemma Moran (later Hussey). The school was established to cater for foreign girls working in Ireland as au-pairs to offer English language classes during their time in Ireland. The school ran classes throughout the year as well as shorter summer courses.

Includes:

- Promotional leaflets for the school (2 items [1965]).

1.2 Abbey Theatre

1.2.1 Board of Directors 1974–78

P179/2 4–31 July 1974

12pp

Appointment

Correspondence, cards, newspaper cutting relating to the appointment of Gemma Hussey to the Board of the Abbey Theatre.

Includes:

- Letter from Richie Ryan, Minister for Finance to Gemma Hussey, 43 St Kevin's Park, Dartry, Dublin 6 marked 'Confidential' enquiring if she would be interested in joining the Board of the Abbey Theatre (4 July 1974, 1p).
- Letter from Richie Ryan to Gemma Hussey informing her that he has nominated her to be a Director of the National Theatre Society Ltd (the Abbey Theatre) for a term of four years. Remarks that she will be allotted 200 shares in the Society '...subject to the condition, which applies generally to shares held by Directors, that on your ceasing to be a member of the Board they will be transferred to your successor' (22 July 1974, 1p).
- Copy of the warrant of appointment to the Board (22 July 1974, 1p).
- Letter from John Slemon, Manager, National Theatre Society Ltd, Lower Abbey Street, Dublin 1 to Gemma Hussey, 43 St Kevin's Park, Dartry, Dublin 6 welcoming her to the Board on behalf of the management (31 July 1974, 1p).

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2 August 1974–25 April 1978

c500pp

Board Documentation

Copies of minutes and agendas, lists of plays for discussion, reports and memoranda.

Includes:

**see also
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- Discussion concerning the Peacock Theatre and the ‘very serious’ situation requiring immediate action. Decision by the Board to stop advertising in the *Irish Independent* and *Irish Press* and to concentrate instead on the *Irish Times*, *Evening Herald* and *Evening Press* (17 July 1974, 4pp).
- Report by the Peacock Theatre Director concerning the loss made on staging lunchtime plays and a discussion concerning reservations expressed by senior players about the lack of experience of both actors and directors in the Peacock. Suggestions for a change in play reading procedures to expedite the decision making process. Organisational details of the forthcoming tour to America by the Abbey (7 August 1974, 4pp).
- Notification from the Department of Education that funds could not be made available for the Young Abbey project. Decision to form a committee to investigate private sources of income. Discussion regarding the future of the Peacock Theatre and the option of closing the Peacock for a period of time. Concern over the lack of response from the Department of Finance regarding the application for a supplementary grant. Includes a draft of a letter to the Secretary, Department of Finance addressing the situation (28 August 1974, 12pp).
- Copy of a report by Joe Dowling on proposals for a possible touring group from the Peacock Theatre in the event of the Peacock closing at the end of the current season. Expresses his concerns over the financial crisis which threatens the temporary closure of the Peacock and the lasting effect this will have on staff and on the image of the theatre itself. Fears that the closure will ‘... be interpreted both within the theatre and by the general public as a failure ... and would greatly impair any chance of starting again.’ Outlines his thoughts on the formation of a touring group and how it would work in practice. Concludes by again voicing his concern that closing the Peacock will ‘... frustrate ... attempts to achieve a unique identity for the theatre ...’ (28 August 1974, 5pp).
- Confirmation that the Peacock would close, as planned, on 2nd November 1974 and that the period of closure would depend on finance and union negotiations (18 September 1974, 2pp).
- Report of a meeting in the Department of Finance and a decision by the Department not to authorise a supplementary grant for the Abbey resulting in further overdraft facilities from the bank. Further discussion concerning the financial difficulties facing the Abbey with the Manager (John Slemon) emphasising that box office income must be increased and that costs must be cut. Copy of a confidential memorandum describing a meeting at the Department of Finance during

which a number of issues were discussed including the amount of the grant to the Abbey for 1975, staffing levels and the Arts Council (30 October 1974, 13pp).

- Lengthy discussion regarding the Peacock Theatre and concerns raised by Board members that productions had gone ahead in the Peacock without Board approval and particularly in light of a previous decision to close the Peacock for a period of time. Further concern raised by Gemma Hussey with regard to a rental charge which had been offered at a reduced rate and that the Abbey had subsidised the cost of the production 'Mrs Hussey said that a precedent had been set which was extremely dangerous and that there had been a lack of consultation.' Continues 'Mr McCarthy said he would take a serious view of a situation where the Manager enters into a contract with a member of the Board without any consultation with the Board. He said that if this happened again he would move a surcharge on the Manager but that he would not pursue such action on this occasion.' Reference to letters from Arthur Cox and the Department of Finance regarding the amendment of the Articles of Association (21 November 1974, 6pp).
- Continuation of the discussion concerning the circumstances preceding the production in the Peacock Theatre and clarifying the procedure that should be followed for future contracts. Agreement that the Manager would not be censured. Reference to a letter from the Department of Finance and representations made by Ulick O'Connor to the Minister regarding shareholders vacancies. Difficulty in securing a term loan from the bank (12 December 1974, 9pp).
- Report of a donation of £1,000 received from the Irish Banks Standing Committee to become a patron of the Young Abbey Theatre in Education with further donations of £1,000 for three years. Proposal put forward by Gemma Hussey that an account be opened for the Young Abbey Theatre in Education and that Joe Dowling and the Manager would operate the account. Outlines the possibility of acquiring 25 Lower Abbey Street, the raising of the necessary finance and the possible uses of the premises (9 January 1975, 8pp).
- Reference to financial approval allowing for the acquisition of 25 Lower Abbey Street (31 January 1975, 9pp).
- Discussion concerning the forthcoming tour of the US by the Abbey. Record of the transfer of shares. Approval for a number of negotiation proposals in advance of a meeting with Equity concerning the matter of payments for touring. Remarks 'The aim of these proposals is to enable the Theatre to undertake more touring and to do so on a reasonably competitive basis. Otherwise touring will become increasingly loss-bearing and impossible without lavish underwriting' (20 February 1975, 11pp).
- Reference to correspondence with the National Library of Ireland concerning the Lady Gregory scrapbooks. Request for an update concerning the Abbey's archives. Discussion about the possibility of restarting the Young Abbey in light of the recent donation and agreement that Joe Dowling would report

at the next Board meeting. Decision to hold a weekend conference to discuss policy (6 March 1975, 4pp).

- Discussion concerning the estimated costs of the six week tour to America by the Abbey (25 March 1975, 4pp).
- Reconsideration of the purchase of 25 Lower Abbey Street following the doubling of the asking price by the vendor once it was learned that the Abbey were interested in purchasing the property. Includes an analysis of the budget and accounts (17 April 1975, 8pp).
- Reference to the policy conference and an outline of the implementation of a number of actions (13 May 1975, 5pp).
- Confirmation of an extension to the Artistic Director's (Tomás MacAnna) contract for a further two years. General discussion of policy items arising from the Director's Conference (5 June 1975, 7pp).
- Disagreement expressed by Gemma Hussey over the minutes of 5 June 1975 concerning the Young Abbey and a grant from the Arts Council. Decision to appoint a Literary Editor and that Denis Johnston should be approached as a person 'acceptable to the Board and to playwrights.' Also agreed that he should be informed that it was a short term proposal and that the appointment was an experiment. Further proposal that Brian Friel should also be approached with the view to offering him the same appointment when the post becomes vacant. Terms of reference of the Planning Committee (26 June 1975, 11pp).
- Correspondence received from Denis Johnston accepting the position of Literary Editor and from Brian Friel regretfully declining the offer of the position of Literary Editor for the following year. Appointment to the Planning Committee of the Artistic Director, the Manager, the Peacock Director, Kathleen Barrington and Bill Hay (17 July 1975, 10pp).
- Report of the Young Abbey Committee presented by Gemma Hussey outlining a number of proposals to start a new group which would have a separate identity from the Abbey. Recommended that Gemma Hussey, Kathleen Barrington and Joe Dowling form a limited company and that they would become the Theatre in Education Group (7 August 1975, 8pp).
- Agreement that Joe Dowling's term of office as Director of the Peacock to be extended for a further two years. Proposal to appoint Michael Colgan as Administrative Assistant to Joe Dowling for a trial period of six months. Copy of a summary of data provided by the Irish Pension Trust Ltd regarding the pension plan for general staff employed by the Abbey (28 August 1975, 11pp).
- Reference to a letter from Michal Gill of Gill and MacMillan enquiring about the possibility of commissioning a definitive history of the Abbey Theatre to coincide with the 75th anniversary of the Theatre's foundation. Discussion concerning the transfer of archival material to the National Library and reassurances from the National Library that photocopies could be made available at short notice if required. Also reservations about the transfer of two volumes of minutes and accounts dating to 1920-30. Contact with RTE with a view to televising at least one Abbey production each

year. Remarks that despite there being an association between the two organisations little progress has been made. Summary of the material to be transferred from the Abbey archives to the National Library and the proposals set down by the Library to store, catalogue and make available the material (18 September 1975, 6pp).

- Agreement that the new Theatre in Education group would be known as Team Educational Theatre Ltd and the Directors would be Gemma Hussey, Kathleen Barrington and Joe Dowling. Also agreed that the Director of the group would be Nuala Hayes. Proposed by Charles McCarthy and seconded by Tomás MacAnna that the Abbey would pay a grant of £600 to the group (20 October 1975, 5pp).
- Lengthy discussion concerning the tour to America, the organisation and cost, the number from the company that should travel, the plays to be performed. Agreement that neither the programme nor the details regarding the US tour should be finalised until further discussion had taken place (28 October 1975, 6pp).
- Formal acceptance of the resignation of the manager John Slemon. Further discussion concerning the tour to the US (11 November 1975, 1p).
- Letter received from the Director of the National Library confirming the terms under which material transferred from the Abbey to the Library would be made available. Agreement to proceed with the transfer of manuscripts from the Abbey's archives as well as the minute books for the years 1926–32. Report on a meeting with Harvey Lichtenstein concerning the tour to America, the duration of the tour and the need to bring two productions on the tour. Expression of interest from Hugh Leonard in the position of Play Editor and agreement that he should be offered the position. Suggestions for capital expenditure to improve facilities and storage space. Application to the National Prices Commission to raise seat prices with a plan outlining the four different price structures at the Abbey. Summary of a meeting with Harvey Lichtenstein concerning the American tour (18 November 1975, 15pp).
- Letter received by the Board from Joe Dowling informing them that he had been offered the position of Artistic Director of the Irish Theatre Company and applying for a two year leave of absence. Agreement by the Board to grant the leave of absence. Discussion concerning the position of Theatre Manager and the withdrawal of the candidate chosen due to 'financial sacrifices'. Agreement that the salary should be raised to £7,000 and, if this was not acceptable, that the position be re-advertised. Clarification that it is no longer necessary to obtain permission from the National Prices Commission to increase seat prices (9 December 1975, 6pp).
- Letter from Cyril Cusack stating that he did not want to take part in the tour to America. Decision to re-advertise the position of Theatre Manager. Report on a meeting with the Minister for Finance remarking that the Minister said that the Abbey would not get increases in the grant as had happened in previous years and that the Arts Council would in future make

the decisions about how to distribute funding. Reservations about the standard of the production of the play 'Shaughran' and the upcoming tour to America. Co-option of William Hay to replace Leslie Scott on the Board of Directors. Report of a meeting with the Minister for Finance regarding the channelling of the grant to the Abbey via the Arts Council. Remarks 'Although we have been taking the line that the alteration to channelling grants via the Arts Council is merely one of administrative convenience and makes no difference to us, it would be futile to deny that it will make a very significant difference indeed in future years. Inevitably, the Council will use artistic criteria in assessing the merits of claims for grant in aid and this places both the Abbey Board and Shareholders in an entirely new position which demands very careful strategy if the Abbey Theatre is to preserve its favoured position hitherto.' (6 January 1976, 9pp).

- Summary of a meeting with the Arts Council concerning the funding arrangements for the Abbey and Peacock Theatres. Decision not to take the production of 'Shaughran' as part of the tour to America (27 January 1976, 4pp).
- Decision to hold a meeting of the Players and Staff to organise a drill for emergencies following recent bomb scares. Agreed that Pat Laffan would be appointed as Director of the Peacock Theatre. Memorandum concerning the format of the Abbey Theatre playwright's bursary dated November 1971 (20 February 1976, 6pp).
- Agreement that the 1976 Playwright's bursary be awarded to Heno Magee (25 February 1976, 2pp).
- Appointment of David Liddy as Theatre Manager. Copy of a discussion document concerning a reformulation of policy in light of the transfer of responsibility for the allocation of grants to the Arts Council (25 March 1976, 7pp).
- Discussion regarding the way script reader's opinions are handled and concern raised by Gemma Hussey about the opinions being sent to the playwright concerned. Agreement that clarification about the handling of readers opinions would be discussed at a future meeting of the Board (14 July 1976, 1p).
- Details of arrangements with RTE and the televising of productions by the Abbey (29 September 1976, 3pp).
- Discussion concerning the grant from the Arts Council and an impression that the Council may impose certain conditions to the payment of the grant '... thus directing the Abbey from afar and if this was allowed to occur the whole character of the Abbey would evaporate.' Agreement that a nominee from the Arts Council should be co-opted to the Board (9 November 1976, 3pp).
- Discussion concerning the US tour and the likelihood of the tour making a loss, possibly in the region of £20,000 including a suggestion that the Company be recalled immediately to avoid any further loss. Agreement that a committee be formed to investigate why the rules for the tour to America laid down by the Board had not been adhered to. Discussion concerning the grant-in-aid from the Arts Council and concerns raised

- about the amount (14 December 1976, 4pp).
- Anticipation of a loss of money as a result of the cut back in the grant to the Abbey and the necessity of preparing additional cuts in expenditure and the possibility of raising funds from private sources in order to enable the day-to-day running of the theatre or special projects (8 January 1977, 2pp).
 - Acknowledgement of the artistic success of the American Tour. Concern relating to the co-option of a representative from the Arts Council to the Board of the Abbey to act as an 'observer'. Includes a copy of a discussion paper on independent funding for the Abbey Theatre prepared by Micheál Ó hAodha (11 January 1977, 8pp).
 - Discussion and agreement that the appointment of a member of the Arts Council as an 'observer' to the Board of the Abbey was 'unacceptable' (22 February 1977, 3pp).
 - Copy of a report to the Board following a meeting between Tomás MacAnna, Martin Fahy and David Liddy and the Director of the Arts Council, Colm Ó Briain. Remarks that it was put to Colm Ó Briain that unless the grant to the Abbey was increased the National Wage Agreement increases would have to be deferred. Refers to the discussion that took place and outlines the options facing the Board as well as the views of the management. Concludes 'It is the management's view that the Board should decide upon seeking a deferment of payment of the National Wage Agreement ... the Arts Council should be immediately informed that we remain certain that this measure is unavoidable but that we agree to postpone any further action to enforce that decision ... to allow consultation with the Arts Council.' (10 March 1977, 5pp).
 - Lengthy discussion regarding the National Wage Agreement and the reaction of the Trade Unions to the Board's decision to defer the payment. Refers to the reaction of the Players and staff who felt they were being used as 'pawns in the struggle between the Theatre and the Arts Council.' Agreement that if money was not forthcoming from the Arts Council that a direct approach to government should be made. Includes a copy of a letter from the Arts Council outlining the extra money that they will make available to the Abbey and the terms and conditions attached to the proposal (1 April 1977, 2pp). Details of a meeting with the Arts Council concerning the overall financial situation of the theatre and the difficulty in paying the salary increases set out under the National Wage Agreement. Refers to the difficulty in getting the Arts Council to understand the cash flow difficulties. Refers also to meetings with the Trade Unions and their opinion that the non-payment of the National Wage Agreement was a tactic being employed by the Board to obtain further funds from the Arts Council (22 March 1977, 8pp).
 - Copy of a report submitted by the Play Editor, Hugh Leonard to the Board outlining his views of the role and how the position could be defined and further developed. Offers suggestions on how the role could integrate with the present structure and closer collaboration with the Artistic Director.

- Includes comments by the Artistic Director (March/April 1977, 7pp).
- Agreement that the National Wage Agreement be paid to members of the National Theatre Society following the successful negotiations with the Arts Council. Discussion concerning the appointment of a new Artistic Director and that the appointment should be made by invitation. Includes a list of possible candidates (13 April 1977, 3pp).
 - Agreement that Pat Laffan be reappointed as director of the Peacock for a further year. Discussion regarding the appointment of the Artistic Director and a proposal by Gemma Hussey that the use of a management consultant and an open competition to assist in filling the position be considered. The proposal was rejected. A further proposal by Tomás MacAnna, seconded by Bill Foley to approach Joe Dowling was successful. Discussion regarding the Play Editor's report submitted by Hugh Leonard and the Artistic Director's views on continuing and developing the role (11 May 1977, 4pp).
 - Copy of the Secretary's, (Martin Fahy), report on the establishment of a structure and salary scale for the design Department. Annotated (24 May 1977, 2pp).
 - Confirmation of Joe Dowling's appointment as Artistic Director, replacing Tomás MacAnna (3 August 1977, 5pp).
 - Complaints by board members that the minutes of meetings were vague with little information and not useful as a source of information. Concern that the National Theatre Society was at risk of losing access to the rights of Seán O'Casey's plays preventing them from staging future performances of O'Casey's work. Agreement that the situation justified contact being made with Mrs O'Casey (8 September 1977, 6pp).
 - Copy of a letter from Reynolds McCarron, Chartered Accountants, Marine House, Clanwilliam Court, Clanwilliam Place, Dublin 2 to Martin Fahy, Secretary, The National Theatre Society Ltd, Lower Abbey Street, Dublin 1 concerning the inadequacy of funds set aside for the replacement of plant and equipment at the Abbey Theatre, in particular the lack of provision regarding depreciation of essential technological equipment. Recommends that a depreciation policy be put in place and the necessity of having the Theatre's plant and equipment revalued every three to five years (14 September 1977, 2pp).
 - Concern raised over the financial operation of the Peacock Theatre (13 October 1977, 6pp).
 - Agreed that Tom Kilroy be offered the position of Play Editor. Suggestion by the Artistic Director that the Abbey should attempt to purchase an option on the O'Casey plays in light of the copyright position (10 November 1977, 7pp).
 - Agreement that there should be a further deposit of the remaining Abbey archival material to the National Library of Ireland with full access by the theatre to the material as well as photocopies on request. Report of a letter received from the solicitors acting on behalf of the estate of the late Mrs Dorothy Robinson and the transfer of the copyright of the works by Lennox Robinson to the National Theatre Society and that

funds raised would be administered by the Directors of the Abbey for the benefit of playwrights, players, producers, stage designers, stage musicians 'or any other servant of the Theatre'. Postscript outlining the circumstances of a temporary extension to the outgoing General Manager's (David Liddy) contract (8 December 1977, 6pp).

- Copy of a press release announcing the appointment of Martin Fahy as General Manager of the National Theatre Society (5 January 1978, 1p).
- Copy of a memorandum from Martin Fahy, Manager to the Board concerning the 1978 grant-in-aid and the additional costs for the year ahead. Informs the board that once the National Wage Agreement details have been finalised a supplementary grant will be provided to the Abbey. Refers also to inflation, the replacement of assets and general development projects and the importance of securing the necessary funding and obtaining a firm guarantee from the Arts Council (24 January 1978, 2pp).
- Copy of a magazine article published in *Hibernia* entitled 'Wanted: Radical Check' by John Boland discussing the appointment of Joe Dowling as Artistic Director replacing Tomás MacAnna. Discusses, at length, the challenges facing Dowling in his new role (30 March 1978, 3pp).
- Copy of a memorandum from Martin Fahy, Manager to the Board outlining the employment history of Tomás MacAnna from 1966 to 1978 (11 April 1978, 2pp).
- Copy of the first report by the newly appointed artistic director Joe Dowling. Expresses his view that a full board meeting should be given over to discuss the kind of planning required for the Abbey. Emphasises the need for longer term planning and refers to the recirculation of Tom Murphy's paper on Artistic Policy presented at the Director's Conference in 1975. Refers also to the Peacock Theatre and his view that the separation of the directorship of the two theatres has not worked well (13 April 1978, 2pp).
- Expression of sympathy following the deaths of Dr Michael MacLiammoir and the former President of Ireland Cearbhall Ó Dálaigh (13 April 1978, 2pp).
- Copy of a document entitled 'Planning and Policy' prepared by the Artistic Director, Joe Dowling. Refers to an earlier document (copy attached, 24 April 1975, 6pp) prepared by Tom Murphy concerning the artistic policy of the National Theatre and his support for the document. Outlines why it should be adopted as Theatre policy. Discusses the importance of planning ahead and the nurturing of suitable productions by living Irish playwrights. Remarks that serious consideration should be given to the number of productions being staged at the Abbey and the opinion, expressed by Tom Murphy in his paper, that the Abbey is doing too many plays each year. Remarks that it is essential to plan for both the Abbey and the Peacock at the same time. Discusses the management of the Peacock and his responsibility, as Artistic Director, for both theatres. Remarks that the Peacock needs strong administrative management to help co-ordinate the separate

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departments and that an administrative position should be advertised in the National Press (25 April 1978, 4pp).

- Copy of minutes of a special meeting of the Board to discuss the aims of the National Theatre and to ratify Tom Murphy's paper as the Artistic Policy of the National Theatre Society Ltd. Provides a summary of the aims. Agreement to abolish the position of Peacock Director, with the programme of the Peacock Theatre to be determined by the Artistic Director and the day-to-day running of the Peacock to be carried out by an administrator. Query from Tom Murphy asking for clarification about an observer from the Arts Council to the Abbey board and why no one had been invited to act in this capacity. Response from the Manager, Martin Fahy, outlining the concerns of the board regarding an observer from the Arts Council attending meetings, the board preferring a nomination from the Arts Council for co-option to the board. Remarks that the matter had not progressed further (27 April 1978, 2pp).
- Further discussion concerning the appointment of an Arts Council observer to the board and agreement in principle, the board reserving the right to conduct meetings without the observer's presence (11 May 1978, 8pp).
- Expression of alarm by GH concerning an exchange of letters between the Irish Ambassador to Japan, Mr Neligan and the former Artistic Director. Refers to the tone of the Ambassador's letter dated 18 March 1977 and the disturbing fact that the letter had not been laid before the board. Asks that the Ambassador and Department of Foreign Affairs be informed that this had taken place without the knowledge of the board (8 June 1978, 2pp).
- Copy of a memorandum prepared by Thomas Kilroy tendering his resignation as Literary Editor and offering his observations on the role. Outlines a number of suggestions for future post holders (8 July 1978, 3pp).

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14 August 1974–2 August 1977

138pp

Correspondence

File of letters and copies of letters between Gemma Hussey and management of the Abbey Theatre. The correspondence covers issues relevant to the operation of the Abbey Theatre and Gemma Hussey's role as a member of the board.

Includes:

- Copy of a lengthy letter from John Slemon, Manager, Abbey Theatre to Michael Ó hAodha, Chairman correcting a number of inaccuracies that arose during a board meeting concerning the presentation of plays in the Peacock Theatre and Moli Productions. Sets out his position and defends his actions. Remarks that unless the board reverses the censure against him he will consider himself in dispute with the board and will seek union representation (9 December 1974, 5pp).

- Copy of a letter from John Slemen to Michael Ó hAodha concerning his salary describing his remuneration as 'inadequate'. Annotated [by GH] (10 December 1974, 2pp).
- Copy of a letter from Gemma Hussey to Tomás MacAnna, Artistic Director, Abbey Theatre outlining her thoughts on an Abbey presentation during International Women's Year. Suggests a number of productions which may be suitable (27 January 1975, 2pp).
- Copy of a letter from Gemma Hussey to Michael Ó hAodha, Chairman, Abbey Theatre apologising for being unable to attend a Board Meeting and expressing her dissatisfaction at the notice given for a change in time for the meeting describing this action as '... quite irregular and inadequate'. Asks that a proposal to hold a benefit night at the Abbey be put before the meeting in order to raise funds for the Young Abbey fund. Concludes by apologising again for her absence at the meeting '... but I do feel strongly that proper notification and a regular time be arranged. It is a small board, and it is a pity that anyone should have to miss meetings.' (24 March 1975, 2pp).
- Copy of a letter from John Slemen, Manager, Abbey Theatre to Joe Dowling, Chairman, Young Abbey Theatre in Education Committee concerning the payment of a subvention of £600 to re-start the Young Abbey. Refers to a recent communication from the Arts Council and concern raised at Board level over the 'tone' of the letter in particular the provision of a grant towards the Young Abbey with conditions attached (30 June 1975, 1p).
- Holograph note from Joe Dowling to Gemma Hussey enclosing a report (not dated, 2pp) on his thoughts regarding the problems facing the Young Abbey. Remarks that he is concerned about the apparent lack of commitment, at Board level, towards the Young Abbey and the concept of Theatre-in-Education in general ([June 1975, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from Michal Gill, Gill and Macmillan Ltd, 15-17 Eden Quay to Michael Ó hAodha, Chairman, Abbey Theatre following up on a meeting concerning the commissioning of a history of the Abbey Theatre for the forthcoming 75th anniversary of the Theatre's foundation. Discusses the financing of the project and a suitable author (21 August 1975, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from John Slemen, Manager, Abbey Theatre to Michael Ó hAodha, Chairman, Abbey Theatre tendering his resignation from the position of manager and secretary of the National Theatre Society Ltd for both 'personal and professional' reasons (1 November 1975, 1p).
- Letter from Gerard Larchet, Consulting Engineers, 130 Rathgar Road, Dublin 6 to Gemma Hussey, 43 St Kevin's Park, Dublin 6 concerning the admittance of late-comers to the Abbey Auditorium. Asks her to raise the matter at a board meeting and encloses previous correspondence (20-27 October 1975, 3pp) with John Slemen on the matter (25 February 1976, 1p).
- Copy of a reply acknowledging the annoyance of late-comers to the auditorium. Refers to difficulties arising from bomb scares

and parking near the Abbey but promises to raise it at a board meeting (1 March 1976, 1p).

- Copy of letter from Gemma Hussey, 43 St Kevin's Park, Dartry, Dublin 6 to Michael Ó hAodha, Chairman, The Abbey Theatre concerning a recent board meeting she had to leave before it concluded. Raises a number of points which she did not get an opportunity to bring up at the meeting. Expresses her opinion on a number of productions and the decision to run certain productions for a shorter/longer time. Refers also to the need for a fuller discussion concerning play directors and the Arts Council and that it is her opinion that the new theatre manager should be introduced to the board before the Press. Remarks 'I have a distinct impression that less than lip-service is paid to any valuation of the opinion or contribution of non-staff Directors' (29 April 1976, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from Tomás MacAnna, Artistic Director, Abbey Theatre to Michael Ó hAodha, Chairman, The Abbey Theatre responding to points raised by Gemma Hussey concerning the summer repertory and other concerns (17 May 1976, 3pp).
- Letter from Patricia Cobey, 36 Marlborough Road, Donnybrook, Dublin 4 to Gemma Hussey referring to a play 'Grania' she submitted to Tomás MacAnna for consideration over three months ago but has not had any response. Asks GH if she could read the script (26 July 1976, 1p).
- Further letter from Patricia Cobey, The Mill House, Ballyshrule, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway to Gemma Hussey acknowledging that she has received the reader's comments and a report on her play. Responds at length to the comments (11 September 1976, 3pp).
- Copy of a reply discussing the script and providing some critical comments. Remarks that she admires the writing skill and that she will bring the play before the board at the next meeting (27 September 1976, 1p).
- Copies of correspondence relating to a request by Mr Kanze Hideo visiting the Abbey to advise on a season of Noh and the difficulties which arose between the Abbey and the Irish Embassy in Tokyo when it was decided to 'withdraw', as claimed by the Irish Ambassador DM Neligan, the invitation to Mr Hideo (18 March 1977, 2pp). A copy of a reply from Tomás MacAnna, Artistic Director, Abbey Theatre strenuously refuting the Ambassador's claim describing his letter as 'ill-judged and ill-informed' (31 March 1977, 1p). Holograph notes by GH expressing alarm at the situation regarding Mr Hideo and concern that the letter from the Irish Ambassador was not brought before the Board immediately on receipt. Continues 'I find it frankly incredible that a letter such as MacAnna's of 31st March should have been sent, and apparently sent to a Govt. Minister as well, without the Board's knowledge' ([March 1977, 2pp).
- Letter from Tomás MacAnna, Artistic Director, Abbey Theatre to Gemma Hussey explaining the contents of another letter (copy enclosed, 15 May 1977, 2pp) from Hugh Leonard resigning his position as Play Editor. Remarks that an earlier letter from Hugh Leonard was written in 'stronger terms' than

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the one enclosed and that he understands that Hugh Leonard has released a copy of the letter to the Press (18 May 1977, 1p).

- Copy of a letter from Reynolds McCarron, Chartered Accountants, Marine House, Clanwilliam Court, Clanwilliam Place, Dublin 2 to Martin Fahy, Secretary, National Theatre Society Ltd, Lower Abbey Street, Dublin 1 raising concerns over the lack of reserves being set aside for the replacement of the Society's assets or major infrastructural repairs and that a low annual operating surplus is causing a cash flow problem for the National Theatre (23 May 1977, 1p).
- Letter from Richie Ryan, Minister for Finance to GH informing her that he instructed his proxy to support Tom Murphy (31 May 1977, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from David Liddy, Manager, Abbey Theatre to Gemma Hussey, 43 St Kevin's Park, Dartry, Dublin 6 informing her that Hugh Leonard has withdrawn his resignation and will continue as Play Editor (9 June 1977, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from David Liddy Manager, Abbey Theatre to Joe Dowling appointing him as Artistic Director of the National Theatre Society Ltd. The letter outlines the terms and conditions of the position (24 June 1977, 1p).
- Copy of the press release announcing Joe Dowling's appointment as Artistic Director of the National Theatre Society Ltd (6 August 1977, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from Gemma Hussey to Martin Fahy, Secretary, Abbey Theatre detailing a number of points she would like raised in her absence at the next board meeting. Refers to a number of recent issues concerning members of the company including behaviour and ways this may be resolved. Expresses satisfaction with the performance of TEAM (Theatre in Education Company) and the advisability of staging children's shows during the months of July and August. Refers to the long delay in finalising the appointment of Joe Dowling as Artistic Director. Asks that an announcement be made immediately and adds 'I shall refrain from Saying "I told you so" when the storm breaks about not advertising!' Refers also to Hugh Leonard and his comments about board meeting confidentiality '... I, for one, find it very alarming to think that what we discuss at Board level is the talk of the town the next day.' Questions whether the Play Editor's (Hugh Leonard) contract should be continued (2 August 1977, 2pp).

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25 November 1974–2 May 1975

39pp

Sub-committee on Policy, Functions and Organisation

Copies of agendas, notes, memoranda, minutes, report, recommendation relating to the work of the sub-committee.

Includes:

- Submission by the Players Council to the sub-committee

outlining their views and concerns and seeking assurances from the Board that there is a firm commitment to developing the company for the future (29 November 1974, 2pp).

- Further submission by the Players Council of discussion points and proposals including a suggestion that a policy committee for the Theatre should be instigated along with a planning committee to assist in the operation of the Theatre. Expands the argument in favour of establishing these two committees, the personnel who should serve on the committees as well as the remit. Acknowledges the increasing difficulty in operating a heavily subsidised theatre. Concludes 'I am putting forward the above motions we would hope to open up discussion ... Our concepts are not new but are new for this Theatre. We only know that there is a very willing body of workers who fear that someday the audience may cry "shameful" and that the old Emperor will be seen to have no clothes.' (29 November 1974, 3pp).
- Copy of a lengthy document, marked 'Highly Confidential' concerning the National Theatre. Includes a discussion of the theatre and suggestions for the development of the theatre under a number of different headings. The second part of the submission outlines the difficulties facing the theatre from a producer's point of view, Pat Laffan, and an actor's point of view, Vincent Dowling ([November 1974], 14pp).
- Brief minute of a meeting of the Sub-committee on Policy, Functions and Organisation discussing the recent submission presented by the Player's Council. Outlines the procedure for the selection of shareholders and agreement that the Player's Council and Staff Council be invited to put forward two nominees and that the Society of Irish Playwrights, An Comhairle Ealaíon and the Amateur Drama Council of Ireland be invited to nominate one person each (29 November 1974, 2pp).
- Copy of a submission to the Sub-committee by Bronwen Casson on behalf of the [Staff Council] expressing the low morale of the staff in the theatre and outlining the causes (17 January 1975, 2pp).
- Copy of the second interim report of the Sub-committee of the National Theatre Society Ltd on Policy, Functions and Organisation. The report was presented to the Company at a general meeting. Describes, in detail, the position regarding the status of shareholders, directors and management in the Company's organisation. Concludes 'The Sub-committee requests the forbearance of members in not being able to make this a Final Report but matters of fundamental importance to the Theatre's future direction need to be examined in detail before recommendations may be made.' (24 January 1975, 6pp).

Directors Policy Conference

Notes, presentations, summary of recommendations arising out of a three day policy development conference for the Abbey Theatre.

Includes:

- Holograph notes by Gemma Hussey taken over the course of the three day conference (25–27 April 1975, 53pp)
- Paper/presentation by Micheál Ó hAodha reviewing twenty five years of Abbey plays. Provides statistical analysis about the types of plays performed at the Queen’s Theatre, the New Abbey and the Peacock. Offers his opinion about the trends in international theatre and cautions against ‘... slapdash work which made no effort to communicate with a public, even a minority public.’ Comments further ‘Our best artists and authors are dedicated individualists who represent no communal view—no consensus. They do not require a policy but a climate of creativity—the conditions which favour the production of original works with distinction. A truly creative theatre cannot live on revivals nor on a foolish expectation of masterpieces, when there are not more than a half-dozen professional playwrights in the country.’ Recommends that a literary editor be employed once the theatre’s finances have improved (25–27 April 1975, 9pp).
- Paper by Joe Dowling, Director of the Peacock Theatre concerning future structure and policy. Expresses his opinion that autonomy for the Peacock would be economically impossible and a ‘... disastrous diffusion of the strength of the National Theatre.’ Outlines his view for the development of the theatre stating that a ‘correct relationship’ between the two theatres could be based on inter-dependency, benefitting both theatres. Expands his ideas under the headings ‘Peacock’s Relationship with the Abbey’, ‘Personnel—Administration and Technical’, ‘Company for the Peacock?’, ‘Programme for the Peacock’, ‘New Plays’, ‘Plays in Irish’. Concludes ‘The main emphasis of this paper has been to make practical suggestions how changes both in the administration and policy terms could help the Peacock operation. The personnel changes will provide the Peacock with an independence and a centralisation of authority which could transform attitudes within the Theatre to the Peacock and lessen the workload of the Abbey administration.’ (25–27 April 1975, 7pp).
- Statistical analysis by John Slemon, Abbey Theatre Manager, concerning productions, audiences and audience decline, Includes an overview of the finances of the theatre and the restriction the lack of funds places on developing certain policy objectives such as touring (14 April 1975, 8pp).
- Paper by Tomás MacAnna entitled ‘A National Theatre’ (25 April 1975, 2pp).
- Paper presented by Leslie Scott analysing the physical environment of the theatre and how this reflects on the operation of the artistic programme. Emphasises the need to

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expand the premises to meet the demands of the theatre (27 April 1975, 4pp).

- Paper submitted to the conference by Pat Laffan on the importance of actors to the theatre. Discusses the development of an actor over time. Offers a number of recommendations and the importance of a longer term strategy in developing the Company (24 April 1975, 4pp).
- Submission by Tom Murphy on the development of an artistic programme for the Abbey over a three year period. Includes his recommendation for the role of Artistic Director (April 1975, 6pp).
- Paper submitted by Gemma Hussey entitled 'The Image of the Abbey'. Refers to the public perception of the Abbey. Remarks that the present image of the Abbey theatre '... is that of a well-housed, dull, inefficiently run semi-State body with a penchant for mediocrity in its activities.' Continues 'Other expressions used about the Abbey's image is that it is a sort of "sacred cow" ... Abbey-bashing ... has become almost a national past-time for some people.' Questions why the media are hostile towards the Abbey but reminds the conference that the media forms public opinion. Refers to the Peacock and Young Abbey and their 'favourable' relationship with the media. Emphasises the need for dynamism and cautions against complacency. Refers to the plays and playwrights associated with the Abbey and a perception that the Abbey does not know or care what a good play is. Suggests the inclusion of an international repertoire without compromising the Abbey's obligation as the National Theatre of Ireland. Queries why the Abbey persists with the 'no-star' system amongst the Company and refers to the recent engagement of big names to the Company. Examines the practical difficulties that prevent audiences from attending plays at the Abbey and offers a number of concluding points. Remarks 'I am aware that a new approach will not only fail to solve all our "image" problems, but will probably heap new coals upon our heads from other quarters. But it would be better to go down trying and fail gloriously, rather than peter out in despondency and indifference.' (25-27 April 1975, 6pp).
- Copy of a summary of recommendations arising out of the Director's Conference (29 April 1975, 4pp).

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1 April 1974-31 December 1978

c300pp

Accounts

Copies of notes on the financial accounts of the Abbey and Peacock Theatres. The notes provide a narrative of the income and expenditure of the two theatres comparing and contrasting previous results. Includes also tabular information concerning the profit and loss of the theatres and schedules providing more detailed breakdowns of income, theatre expenses, general

- P179/7 contd** expenses, financial expenses.
Includes:
- Copy of a letter from John Slemon, Manager, Abbey Theatre to JW Greene, Manager, AIB discussing the planned cash flow for 1975. Remarks that he is investigating with the Department of Finance whether the grant-in-aid can be paid in instalments so that the account can be maintained in credit. Seeks sanction to operate the £100,000 overdraft facility on a fluctuating basis (12 February 1975, 1p).
 - Draft and final accounts of The National Theatre Society Ltd. (31 December 1975–31 December 1977, 60pp).
- P179/8** 10 February 1975–28 January 1976
- 10pp
- Staff**
Mostly lists, summary of administrative staff numbers, letter.
Includes:
- Short lists of applicants for the position of General Manager (22–28 January 1976, 7pp).
- P179/9** 9 June 1975–July 1976
- 2 items (43pp)
- Commemoration**
Publications marking the 50th anniversary of the first government grant to the Abbey Theatre, the first subsidy to any theatre in the English speaking world.
Includes:
- Copy of *Ireland Today*, number 866, the Bulletin of the Department of Foreign Affairs and an article by Micheál Ó hAodha marking the occasion (9 June 1975, 8pp).
 - Publication by the Abbey theatre entitled 'The Abbey Theatre Dublin 1966–76 A Commemorative Record' (June 1976, 35pp).
- P179/10** 28 June 1976–14 March 1978
- 54pp
- Arts Council**
Copies of minutes of the Finance Committee, memoranda, notes concerning the relationship between the theatre and the Arts Council.
Includes:
- Document by Tomás MacAnna entitled 'Some Thoughts on our Approach to the Arts Council'. Refers to a discussion at Board

level about the future of the relationship between the Abbey and the Arts Council. Expresses his concern following a meeting with the Arts Council and their attitude to day to day running of the theatres, seemingly indicating initially that there would be no interference but subsequently releasing a press statement that did not confirm this. Remarks 'Knowing the Director of the Arts Council as I do, having had experience of his work and attitude here at the Abbey I am certain that he will interpret his powers in a way that will see him, in his own view especially, as the artistic arbiter to the subsidised theatres. The former Abbey manager and myself as Artistic Director found him during our not very extensive experience here, very antagonistic towards both of us ... It seems to me therefore that the antagonism displayed by the present Arts Council Director while on the staff here will most certainly qualify his attitude towards whatever artistic policies we will have for the coming year at least.' Advises that any interference in artistic policy should be opposed but that co-operation in certain schemes such as training should be supported. Suggests meeting with the administrators of the other theatres (28 June 1976, 6pp).

- Response to Tomás MacAnna's document by the Abbey Theatre manager David Liddy, endorsing MacAnna's comments and outlining the best approach when making the submission to the Arts Council. Advises that the submission should be done with '... confidence and ease. We should not betray any appearance of apprehension; we should not show any doubt of the simplicity or approving and granting our financial requirements.' Concludes 'We must not worry that we are and shall remain the A.C. director's major concern: fortunately he has more than one string to his bow and will only be able to meddle with us on an occasional basis.' (30 June 1976, 1p).
- Copies of memoranda, including schedules, providing a detailed outline of the financial liabilities of the Abbey Theatre in support of their grant-in-aid application to the Arts Council for 1978 (19 August–9 September 1977, 24pp).
- Copy of a letter from Colm Ó Briain, Director, The Arts Council, 70 Merrion Square, Dublin 2 to Martin Fahy, Manager, The National Theatre Society Ltd, Lower Abbey Street, Dublin 1 concerning the grant-in-aid for the year July 1978 to June 1979. Discusses how the grant will be paid and outlines the payment of additional monies at a later date. Remarks that the Arts Council will ensure that a favourable cash flow is maintained for the Theatre for as many months as possible during the financial year. Expresses disappointment that the board of the Abbey has yet to respond to The Arts Council suggestion for an 'Observer' to attend Abbey board meetings (14 March 1978, 2pp).

P179/11 25 July–12 October 1978

18pp

End of term as Director

Correspondence, newspaper cuttings.

Includes:

- Letter from George Colley, Tánaiste and Minister for Finance to Senator Gemma Hussey informing her that he will not be reappointing her to the Board of the National Theatre Society Ltd when her term as Director expires on 21 July 1978. Thanks her for her service on the Board over the past four years (25 July 1978, 1p).
- Letter from Joe Dowling, Artistic Director, Abbey Theatre to Gemma Hussey expressing his disappointment on hearing the news that she is not to be reappointed to the Abbey board. Thanks her for her support over the years, in particular her support for the Team Education Theatre (26 July 1978, 1p).
- Copy of an interview with Gemma Hussey published in *Magill* concerning her time on the board of the Abbey (July 1978, 2pp).
- Letter from Micheál Ó hAodha, Chairman, The National Theatre Society Ltd, Lower Abbey Street, Dublin 1 to Senator Gemma Hussey, 43 St Kevin's Park, Dartry, Dublin 6 informing her of the board's acknowledgement of her contribution to the achievements of the Abbey during her term of office (17 August 1978, 1p).
- Letter from Richie Ryan TD, formerly Minister for Finance to Senator Gemma Hussey referring to the end of her term of office on the board of the Abbey. Remarks '... I hear the sad news that my successor has given you the bullet on the Abbey. Knowing how well you discharged your duties I am very sorry.' (17 August 1978, 1p).

1.2.2 AGM & EGM 1973-78

13 October 1973–27 May 1978

78pp

Abbey Theatre—AGM

Series of draft and copies of minutes of Annual General Meetings of the National Theatre Society.

P179/12 13 October 1973

11pp

AGM 1973

Includes:

- Returns on plays presented in the Abbey Theatre from 15 September 1973 to 21 September 1974.
- Chairman's statement.

- P179/13** 28 September–26 October 1974
8pp
AGM 1974
- P179/14** 7 June 1975
8pp
AGM 1975
Includes:
 - Acknowledgement of the significant contribution by Ernest Blythe to the Abbey Theatre and a minute's silence to mark his death.
 - Reference by Seán O'Tuama to the Policy Conference but expresses his worry over recommendations that the Peacock Director should be subject to the Artistic Director. Agreement that the Board would report back to the next meeting about this matter.
 - Reference by Bill Foley to a Literary Editor, expressing the opinion that no such appointment should be made.
 - Chairman's statement.
- P179/15** 29 May 1976
21pp
AGM 1976
- P179/16** 28 May 1977
18pp
AGM 1977
Includes:
 - Chairman's statement.
- P179/17** 27 May 1978
12pp
AGM 1978
Includes:
 - Details of the Robinson Bequest following the death of Mrs Robinson and the copyright of the works of Lennox Robinson reverting to the National Theatre Society.

P179/18 7 October 1972–27 May 1978

35pp

Abbey Theatre—Extraordinary General Meetings

Copies of notices and minutes.

Includes:

- Recommendation that a Literary Editor be appointed, reporting to the Artistic Director. Agreement that no appointment would be made if the right person was not found (25 May 1974, 3pp).
- Detailed report to the meeting concerning the future structure and policy of the Peacock Theatre (6 June 1975, 7pp).

1.2.3 TEAM 1972–80

P179/19 [1972]–14 July 1980

c200pp

Young Abbey and Theatre in Education

File of notes, correspondence, reports, memoranda, programmes, accounts relating to TEAM, the Irish Theatre in Education group which emerged from the Young Abbey in September 1975 and founded by Joe Dowling. It became a full-time group in September 1976.

Includes:

- Copy of a draft report and report by Joe Dowling entitled 'The Young Abbey 1970–1974'. The report outlines the development of Theatre-in-Education in Ireland and sets out proposals for future development. Provides a brief history of the Young Abbey from its beginnings as a part-time initiative by members of the Abbey company to working as a unit within the Abbey structure. Describes the structure of the group and how it has been financed. Outlines the programme of the group describing both the theatrical and educational themes in the various productions and summarising each programme individually. Describes also the plays for children presented at the Peacock Theatre. Lists the schools (both primary and secondary) visited by the group and how many visits have taken place. Lists the personnel involved in the group. The final section of the report discusses in detail the future needs of the Young Abbey in terms of structural development and how this should be financed, a programme schedule, touring, types of programmes suitable for the different age groups, relationship with the Abbey Theatre (7 May 1974, 24pp).
- Typed list of the names and addresses of Dublin firms who received letters from the Young Abbey appealing for funds ([May 1974, 2pp]).
- Copy of a letter from S Ó Conchobhair, Secretary, Department of Education, Dublin 1 to John Slemmon, Manager, The National Theatre Society, Lower Abbey Street, Dublin 1 regretting that the department is not in a position to provide financial

- assistance to the Young Abbey (23 August 1974, 1p).
- Copy of a [memorandum] on the Young Abbey concerning its disbandment owing to lack of funds. Describes efforts made to raise money by application to the Department of Education and an appeal to firms in Dublin for funds all to no avail. Expresses a hope to re-start the work of the group on a limited basis and outlines the financial needs of this proposal ([1975], 2pp).
- Copy of a letter from Colm Ó Briain, Director, The Arts Council, 70 Merrion Square, Dublin 2 to Joe Dowling, Chairman, Young Abbey Committee, Lower Abbey Street, Dublin 1 informing him that the Arts Council will contribute £600 provided that this is matched by the Abbey Theatre. Remarks that the Council were 'extremely concerned' that the Abbey Theatre was not offering financial support to the Young Abbey and had even gone as far as disbanding the group. Continues 'The Council feels that a body whose grant from public funds greatly exceeds its own, should not be calling on the Council's modest resources ... If the Abbey pays only £200 then the Council's contribution will be the same; if the Abbey contributes nothing the Council's grant will not operate at all' (23 April 1975, 2pp).
- Copy of a report on the work of the Young Abbey Sub Committee. Refers to the very disappointing response to letters of appeal sent to 35 commercial firms seeking financial assistance. Outlines the proposals for starting a part-time group based on available funds and to explore other sources of revenue for it to continue. Suggests that the Peacock Theatre be used for children's theatre presentations on Saturday mornings (5 August 1975, 3pp).
- Copy of a letter from C Hamilton, Arthur Cox & Co Solicitors, 42-45 St Stephen's Green, Dublin 2 to David Liddy, Abbey Theatre, Lower Abbey Street, Dublin 1 informing him that papers to incorporate Team Educational Theatre Ltd have been lodged (2 November 1976, 2pp).
- Copy of minutes of an informal meeting of Team Educational Theatre Ltd. Records the names of Kathleen Barrington, Joe Dowling and Gemma Hussey as Company Directors (19 January 1977, 2pp).
- Copy of letter from Joe Dowling, Artistic Director, Irish Theatre Company, 4 Marlborough Place, Dublin 1 to Barbara McNamara, Organiser, Team Educational Theatre, 4 Glenavy Park, Terenure, Dublin 6 concerning the position of the Board of Directors of Team. Remarks that he has put a lot of thought into the composition of the board and remarks that it is 'meaningless' due to lack of consultation. Questions the need for a board of directors. Remarks that without knowledge of the group's activities the board is in no position to offer advice, comments or criticise decisions (5 April 1977, 1p).
- Copy of the minutes of the AGM of Team Educational Theatre Ltd. Includes a lengthy discussion in response to Joe Dowling's letter questioning the need for a board of directors (7 April 1977, 7pp).
- Copy of a letter from Gemma Hussey to Barbara McNamara,

TEAM, 4 Glenavy Park, Terenure, Dublin 6 agreeing with the views expressed in Joe Dowling's letter concerning the board of directors of TEAM. Expresses her support for the work of TEAM, including a personal financial guarantee. Outlines steps that should be taken to regularise the administration of TEAM (18 April 1977, 1p).

- Copy of the financial report for January–March 1977 (20 April 1977, 5pp).
- Copy of a letter from Joe Dowling, 79 Cowper Road, Rathmines, Dublin 6 to Nuala Hayes, Director, TEAM resigning as a board member of TEAM (13 December 1977, 1p).
- Letter from Jim Lynch, 168 Rathgar Road, RATHmines, Dublin 6 to Gemma Hussey informing her that he has been requested by members of TEAM to resign from the company. Remarks that his views on educational theatre differ substantially from the other members of the company (13 January 1978, 1p).
- Notes by Gemma Hussey concerning the resignation of Jim Lynch from TEAM and further resignations of members of the company (20 January 1978, 1p).
- Draft and copy of a statement issued by the board of directors of TEAM concerning the proposed resignation of Nuala Hayes as Director and Administrator and Jim Lynch and Barbara McNamara as group members. Outlines the reasons behind the board's intervention including a number of proposals to restructure the company in order that TEAM can continue with its work (8 February 1978, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH to Joe Dowling, Artistic Director, Abbey Theatre concerning a recent communication (enclosed, 17 June 1980, 1p) from the Companies Office enquiring about the failure of TEAM to file a tax return since 1977. Remarks that she does not see the point in remaining as a Director of the company if no meetings are held (26 June 1980, 1p).
- Reply from Joe Dowling providing GH with an up to date address for TEAM. Remarks that Jim Lynch is still their artistic director and he has similarly not had any contact with TEAM in the last year (30 June 1980, 1p).
- Letter from Tim O'Neill, Administrator, TEAM, Educational Theatre Company Ltd, 2 Crow Street, Dublin 2 to Gemma Hussey informing her of the complete restructuring of TEAM following consultations with the Arts Council. Encloses a copy of the mid-year report (May 1980, 6pp) detailing the restructuring. Refers also to the improving finances of the company. Remarks that it is his hope that the restructuring will improve the 'low morale' which led to a close down of the company last year. Refers to increased support from the Arts Council (14 July 1980, 2pp)

1.2.4 Artistic Programme, 1974–78

P179/20 [1974–78]

49pp

Script Inventories

Includes:

- Inventory of scripts transferred from the script room, Abbey Theatre to the National Library of Ireland for safe keeping (Not dated, 5pp).
- Lists of plays discussed at board meetings. Includes the title of the play, the name of the playwright, the names of the readers and the decision to either accept, reject or edit/alter the play ([1974–78], 44pp)

P179/21 [1974–78]

c150pp

Reader's Comments

Correspondence, reports relating to reviews of scripts submitted to the Abbey Theatre.

Includes:

- Copy of a report from the Play Reading Committee summarising the plays accepted for production at the Abbey and Peacock Theatres in 1974. Remarks that the standard of work submitted is lower than on any previous occasion and that the most successful presentations of the year were commissioned by the Abbey (8 January 1975, 1p).
- Notes by Gemma Hussey expressing concern over a report on a script submitted by Brian Friel and the offence caused to Friel. Remarks that she did not see the comments but understands that there is regret over sending the report to Friel, wonders about the 'depth of his offence' (14 July 1976, 1p)
- Copy of a letter from Finola Eustace on behalf of Tomás MacAnna, Artistic Director, Abbey Theatre to Fionan Mac Colum, 14 Westbourne House, Ebury Bridge Road, London returning a manuscript and informing him that the season for both the Abbey and the Peacock is fully planned. Thanks him for sending the script (18 August 1977, 1p).
- Letter from Fionan MacColum written on the copy of the letter from Finola Eustace to Gemma Hussey appealing to her to have his script reconsidered. Expresses, in strong terms, his upset at MacAnna's rejection of his work. A note on the letter in Gemma Hussey's handwriting remarks that MacColum's script, accompanied by a letter, was sent on 17 October 1977 ([August 1977], 2pp).

- P179/22-29** [1974–78]
713pp
Abbey Theatre—Scripts
Series of scripts submitted to the Abbey Theatre for consideration by readers and the board.
- P179/22** 22 November 1977
102pp
Script
A stage play by Lee Dunne entitled ‘Goodbye to all that’.
- P179/23** [1978]
105pp
Script
‘Aristocrats’ by Brian Friel.
- P179/24** [1974–78]
65pp
Script
A play in two acts by Brian Lynch entitled ‘Crooked in the Car Seat’.
- P179/25** [1974–78]
82pp
Script
‘The Old Peasant can neither be Damned nor Glorified’ by John McArdle. Influenced by Patrick Kavanagh’s ‘The Great Hunger’.
- P179/26** [1974–78]
65pp
Script
‘Sauve Qui Peut’ by Tom MacIntyre.

- P179/27** [1974–78]
129pp
Script
A play in three acts by MJ Molly entitled ‘Petticoat Loose’.
- P179/28** 4 November 1977
59pp
Script
‘Iceberg’ by Stewart Parker.
- P179/29** [1974–78]
106pp
Script
A charade in two acts by Stewart Parker entitled ‘Cathchpenny Twist’.
- P179/30** July 1974–27 May 1978
32pp
Abbey Theatre—Programme
Copies of proposed programme and diary of events for the Abbey and Peacock Theatres.
- P179/31** 10 August 1974–12 June 1976
62pp
Abbey Theatre—Attendance
Copies of attendance returns for the Abbey and Peacock Theatres. Lists the date of the production, the name of the production, the attendance figures and the receipts.

P179/32 19 January 1975–18 January 1977

49pp

Abbey Theatre—USA Tour

Lists, memoranda, estimate of costs, copies of correspondence, agreement relating to a tour of cities in America by the Abbey and the staging of productions.

Includes:

- Copy of a letter from Alexander H Cohn, Executive Producer, American Revolution Bicentennial to John Slemon, Manager, The National Theatre Society Ltd, Lower Abbey Street, Dublin 1 confirming the invitation on behalf of the US Bicentennial World Theatre Festival to the Abbey Theatre to participate in the celebrations in 1976. Refers to the details of the invitation including the production(s) to be staged, where the performances will take place, the city/cities involved and the payment of a weekly fee and transportation costs between cities taking part in the festival. Remarks that the round trip travel costs would not be paid by the Festival (19 January 1975, 2pp).
- List of personnel involved in the tour. Annotated (Not dated, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from Ivan King, Secretary Cultural Relations Committee, Department of Foreign Affairs to John Slemon, Manager, Abbey Theatre confirming that a grant of £3850 and a 'guarantee-against-loss' of £3850 will be made available to the company for the forthcoming tour (23 March 1976, 1p).
- Copy of a memorandum of a meeting in the Abbey Theatre discussing the arrangements of the tour to the USA, the budget involved including a discussion on the change of venue for the 'Plough and the Stars' production to an auditorium with less seating capacity. Also a discussion regarding the draft contract to be drawn up. Includes a summary of the main points discussed at the meeting (17 May 1976, 5pp).
- Draft agreements between the Abbey Theatre and The Brooklyn Academy of Music Inc and the Hartke Theatre, Catholic University of America to permit the appearance of the Abbey Players at the two theatres and details of the productions to be staged (16 August & 22 September 1976, 16pp).
- Summary of costs incurred on the USA tour (8–18 January 1977, 5pp).

2 GENDER EQUALITY AND SOCIAL AWARENESS

2.1 Women's Political Association

2.1.1 Committee 1970-81

P179/33 1970; 12 November 1973-1 February 1981

c420pp

Administration

File of correspondence, copies of press releases, drafts of information leaflets, information literature, copies of newspaper cuttings, copies of minutes, reports, speeches, biographical information relating to the organisation and work of the Women's Progressive Association/Women's Political Association (WPA). Notes concerning issues relevant to women's rights, equality, gender discrimination, legislation affecting women. The Women's Progressive Association was founded by Margaret Waugh in 1970 later becoming the Women's Political Association; founder members included GH, Nuala Fennell, Audrey Conlon, Hilary Pratt and Phil Moore. The association operated during the 1970s and 1980s in an effort to influence public opinion on the importance of gender balance amongst public representatives, to pressurise political parties and to urge women to run for elected office. It operated with limited resources and relied heavily on teams of volunteers working in local branches around the country.

Includes:

- Copy of a model constitution for branches of the WPA (Not dated, 6pp).
- Copy of an information leaflet outlining the aims and objectives of the Women's Progressive Association. Invites interested parties to write to the Honorary Secretary Mrs MH Waugh, 46 Elton Park, Sandycove, Co Dublin ([1970], 3pp).
- Copy of a Guide for Women Voters published by the Women's Political Association (Not dated, 10pp).
- Copy of a press release issued on the occasion of the inaugural meeting of the Shannon Branch of the WPA. The release includes an extract from a speech delivered by GH, Vice-Chairman of the WPA (also Member of the Council for the Status of Women and a Director of the Abbey Theatre) (2 June [], 1p).
- Copy of press release issued on the occasion of the inaugural meeting of the Sutton Branch of the WPA. The release includes an extract from a speech delivered by GH, Vice-Chairman of the WPA on the theme of Nepotism in Irish politics (14 November [], 1p).
- [Statement] issued by the WPA responding to Barry Desmond's assertion that '... because there is no constitutional barrier against women offering themselves for election there is no seeming need for women to get special support ...' Remarks that the political arena is not different to the other areas of life in Ireland for women where they experience gender inequality

- in marriage, welfare, employment etc. (Not dated, 1p).
- Copy of an information leaflet explaining the aims and objectives of the WPA (Not dated, 1p).
 - Copy of a discussion paper by Nuala Fennell entitled 'Mixed Views in Nullity Discussion Paper—Is it Honest?' Discusses the subject of civil annulments and the need for law reform. Refers to Declan Costello's detailed paper on 'Law of Nullity in Ireland'. Remarks that the paper is '... a sincere response to long standing criticism of the anomalies in marriage law, particularly relating to Church/State developments.' Continues 'It is a recognition that we are fast creating a twilight zone of second marriages (performed in the Catholic Church) which are unrecognised in Civil Law.' (Not dated, 6pp).
 - Copy of a letter from Roisin Conroy, Minutes Secretary, WPA, 29 Herbert Avenue, Merrion, Dublin 4 to Maeve Breen, Chairperson, WPA expressing her serious doubts about remaining on the Committee of the WPA and that after some thought she has decided to resign. Outlines her misgivings about the decision by the WPA not to participate in the CAP (Contraception Action Programme) working committee. Remarks that in her opinion this decision had a negative effect on the image of the WPA who she feels should be '... leading from the front ...' Refers also to the lack of engagement by the WPA with the Law Reform Commission remarking '... until we are seen to be taking part in discussion by way of reports, documents and submission to the media and any Commission set up ... we will be left with the same unchanging membership and will not affect the position of women in politics which we are supposed to be about in the first place.' Also expresses concern about the WPA's publication *Journal*. Remarks that it is 'lightweight'. Refers also to the editorial board and that at present the management of the *Journal* is not functioning effectively (Not dated, 2pp).
 - Extracts from speeches made by members of the WPA to a public meeting in Waterford. The theme of the meeting was 'Waterford Women Awake, Aware, Thinking'. The speeches called on the audience to rally support for women to become more actively engaged in politics (13 February [1978], 1p).
 - Copy of a notice [to members of the WPA] concerning the establishment of National Talent Bank Committee composed of members of the WPA and the Business and Professional Women's Club. Remarks that Dr Mary McEntagart and Gemma Hussey are acting as the WPA's representatives on the new committee (Not dated, 1p).
 - Copy of a [memorandum] written by [GH] concerning the WPA and criticism that it was a 'talking shop'. Remarks that the WPA needs to be seen to be active and engaged. Refers to the forthcoming by-election proposing that the WPA set up a by-election sub-committee to support Eileen Lemass who has been nominated as the Fianna Fáil candidate for Dublin South-West (Not dated, 1p).
 - Copy of a speech delivered by GH at the AGM of the WPA accepting the chairmanship of the WPA for 1973. Annotated.

- (January 1973, 2pp).
- Letter from Senator Mary Robinson, 27 Merrion Square, Dublin 2 to GH, 43 St Kevin's Park, Dartry, Dublin 6 acknowledging a letter from GH supporting the introduction of the Family Planning Bill 1973. Thanks her for writing to the *Irish Times*, Richie Ryan and John Kelly in support of the Bill (12 November 1973, 1p).
 - Copy of the constitution and rules of the Women's Progressive Association revised at the AGM in 1973, operative at and from the AGM in 1974. The aim of the Association was to raise awareness of women of the responsibilities of public and political life and to encourage participation ([1973], 2pp).
 - Text of papers delivered at a one-day conference organised by the Status of Women Committee at Church House, Westminster, London entitled 'Sex Discrimination in the European Community'. The WPA was represented by GH (18 May 1974, 15pp).
 - Notes concerning a proposal by the Minister for Labour to set up a Women's Representative Committee and a call for nominations from the Council for the Status of Women to fill two vacancies. Other nominating bodies contacted were ICTU, FUE and the ESRI. The chairman to be appointed by the Minister. The terms of reference were to liaise with the Department of Labour and individual women's organisations, to suggest proposals for the implementation of the recommendations from the Council of the Status of Women Report, to assist in the preparation of legislation to address the status of women and to investigate the level of discrimination experienced by women. In notes relating to this proposal GH records that as Chairman of the WPA she contacted their delegate to the Council of the Status of Women to ask that any decision regarding the Minister's proposals be deferred until the WPA had an opportunity to discuss the matter, in particular concerns over the small representation of women on the proposed Women's Representative Committee. Refers to subsequent contact with the delegate who informs GH that the Council out-voted the WPA's request and had agreed to the Minister's request to send him two nominations and that one of the names was the WPA delegate. Continues by describing a meeting of the WPA Committee including the decision of the Honorary Secretary to resign her position if the matter was pursued ([October 1974], 1p).
 - Further holograph notes [for a meeting of the WPA Committee] written by GH concerning the proposed Women's Representative Committee again detailing her concerns over the haste in nominating to the Committee and a lack of time for delegates on the Council for the Status of Women to consult with their parent organisations. Raises concerns over the WPA delegate (Monica Barnes) to the Council and that she did not act according to the best interests of the WPA. Outlines a 'cause of action' which she would like to happen, including the withdrawal of Monica Barnes name as the WPA representative to the proposed body until the WPA has had an opportunity to assess the suitability of the Women's

Representative Committee. Also states that the WPA should temporarily withdraw their representative from the Council for the Status of Women if the Council persists in immediately agreeing to the Minister's proposal. Remarks 'I have informed several members of the Committee of the situation. I feel this WPA Committee owes it to its members and to the people all round the country proposing to form branches to act immediately to avoid being railroaded into giving our support to a government move which is being carried through with such unseemly haste. I reiterate that my opinion is that the WPA never intended our representative on the Council to take such favours unto herself and that this Committee must act now ...' (23 October [1974], 9pp).

- Copy of a letter from GH, Chairman of the WPA Committee to Hilda Tweedy, Chairman of the Council for the Status of Women, Hillcrest, Stillorgan Road, Co Dublin explaining the decision of the WPA to ask that their representative Monica Barnes, withdraws her name from the Council's list of nominees until such time that the WPA has had to opportunity to reflect on the Minister's proposal. Informs her that the WPA has written to the Minister informing him of this ([October 1974], 1p).
- Copy of a reply from Hilda Tweedy to GH informing her of an emergency meeting of the Council following receipt of her letter and expressing the Council's dismay over the actions of the WPA and the letter sent to the Minister. Informs GH that Monica Barnes is a nominee from the Council for the Status of Women and not from the WPA ([October 1974], 1p).
- Summary notes outlining the proposals of the Minister for Labour for a Women's Representative Council, the terms of reference and the composition of the Committee ([October 1974], 1p).
- Copy of suggestions by the committee of the WPA for the proposed Women's Representative Committee. Suggests the representation needed on the committee and the structure of the committee ([October 1974], 2pp).
- Copy of a letter from GH, Chairman of the WPA to Michael O'Leary, Minister for Labour welcoming the proposal to establish a Women's Representative Council but laments the lack of time for consultation with the various women's organisations. Requests that the Minister postpone the formation of the committee to allow time for consideration of the Minister's proposals. Remarks that the WPA has instructed their representative (Monica Barnes) on the Council for the Status of Women to withdraw her name as a nominee until the WPA have had more time to discuss the matter. Remarks that a copy of the letter has been sent to the 25 represented women's organisations on the Council for the Status of Women (6 November 1974, 1p).
- Letter from Hilda Tweedy, Chairman, Council for the Status of Women to GH deploring the action of the WPA in writing to the Minister for Labour, Michael O'Leary concerning the formation of the WRC. Informs GH that Monica Barnes is a nominee to the WRC from the Council and not from the WPA (7 November

- 1974, 1p).
- Letter from Terry McNulty, 3 Rowanbyrn, off Deansgrange Road, Blackrock, Co Dublin to GH, Chairman, Women's Political Association, 43 St Kevin's Park, Dublin 6 tendering her resignation as Honorary Secretary of the Association. Remarks that she did not agree with the Committee's decision to send the two letters relating to the difficult situation arising out of the Minister for Labour's proposal to establish a Women's Representative Committee and disagreement with the Council for the Status of Women concerning the handling of the nominations to this body (9 November 1974, 1p).
 - Letter from Mary Anderson, Journalist, Independent Woman, *Irish Independent*, Independent House, 90 Middle Abbey Street, Dublin 1 to GH, 43 St Kevin's Park, Dublin 6 concerning the source of her information relating to 'internal problems' in the Council for the Status of Women. Remarks that she is not in a position to reveal her source but confirms that the source did not come from the WPA. Explains her decision, in agreement with the editor of Independent Woman, Janet Martin to run the story as an article in the woman's page of the newspaper. Defends the decision to publish the story stating '... we are only too aware of the damage sensational news stories can cause. The decision to expose this particular problem within the Council was to ensure that the facts ... would not be misinterpreted ...' Outlines her own personal opinion concerning the working of the Council based on the research and interviews she conducted for the article. Remarks that robust scrutiny and critical comment is required in order for women's organisations, including the Council, to become an 'effective political force' in Ireland. Observes that the Council has stifled any constructive criticism and that the various organisations represented on the Council have been complicit in allowing this to happen 'Our haste to promote active women's organisations has been such that we have frequently given women's decisions the benefit of the doubt and not critically examined the very real problems that exists in members organisation's structures and that of the Council.' Remarks that reflection on recent events is required so that a similar situations does not arise again but that the result will be of value to a great number of people in the country 'It is obvious that we are entering a period of economic and political history of the world where people and nations are being polarised ... If there is not the room within the Council for the Status of Women or member organisations for groups and individuals to express the fear of manipulation of the majority by the few through full and frank discussion, how then will we be able to cope with the increasing manipulation of other groups within our own society ...' Praises the WPAs action in asking their representative to stand down and for their acceptance that the issue would be discussed in the public arena (25 November 1974, 3pp).
 - Letter from Nuala Fennell, 22 Foxrock Avenue, Co Dublin to the WPA supporting their resolution to have the terms of reference of the Women's Representative Committee

broadened. Remarks that she does not lend this support lightly and acknowledges the vital role played by the WPA in the lives of Irish women and their need for strong leadership. Refers to the discrimination of women she encounters on a daily basis and the long experience she has in the area of women's rights and her involvement with a number of agencies fighting against discrimination '...I would offer advice on success with objectives, be single-minded in your purpose, altruistic in motives, but vigilant to the reaction of the establishment, specifically politicians ... I say yes to your proposal because I feel that justice and fairplay are at stake, and enough of us now know "short-change" for what it is, when we see it.' (6 December 1974, 1p).

- Copy of an article published in the *Irish Times* written by Christina Murphy reporting on Senator Mary Robinson's objection to the composition and terms of reference of the Minister for Labour's proposed Women's Representative Committee (7 December 1974, 2pp).
- Copy of a notice of an EGM of the WPA concerning the motion 'That this meeting submit to the Minister for Labour, the Honorary Secretary of the Council for the Status of Women, and the Heads of Organisations represented on the Council, suggestions drawn up by the Women's Political Association for a reconstituted women's representative committee.' (9 December 1974, 1p).
- Copy of suggestions from the WPA concerning the Women's Representative Committee and delivered by hand to the Minister. Annotated (10 December [1974], 2pp).
- Letter from Richie Ryan, Minister for Finance to GH, 43 St Kevin's Park, Dartry, Dublin 6 undertaking to represent the views of the WPA to the Minister for Labour, Michael O'Leary (18 December 1974, 1p).
- Holograph notes by GH, Chairman of the WPA written in preparation for the AGM of the Council for the Status of Women against the backdrop of strained relations between the WPA and the Council and disagreement between the two organisations over the Women's Representative Committee. Outlines in point form the concerns of the WPA dating back to the resignation of Monica Barnes, the WPA's representative on the Council in December 1975. Remarks that since that time the WPA has had no voting delegate on the Council. Observes that there is a lack of communication from the Council and that the WPA '... find it difficult to understand why the association has been ignored in this fashion.' Continues 'It is our sincere wish that the Council for the Status of women should be a strong and effective voice for the organisations represented on it ...' Expresses concern that agendas and minutes of Council meetings are not circulated in a timely manner and that delegates are not given sufficient time to consult with the executives of their parent organisations. Provides suggestions on overcoming this issue. Acknowledges that the suggestions could be perceived as slowing down the work of the Council but argues that if the changes occur the Council's stature would be strengthened especially in its

dealing with government departments. Remarks 'The WPA sees the long term evolution of the Council, if it follows these procedures—which are the normal ones for a body representing numbers of people in the order of 250,000—as becoming a very strong force which could influence the progress of women in this country more than any other body. The adherence to the principles of democracy, and the operation of these principles, calls for maturity and true political sense. It is time for women in Ireland to show that they possess these qualities.' ([January 1975], 4pp).

- Copy of a letter from GH, Chairman of the WPA to The Editor, *Irish Times* responding to a previous letter to the paper (not in this file) written by Margaret Waugh and concerning the ongoing controversy over the formation of the Women's Representative Committee. Draws attention to the women's groups who are not represented including AIM, FLAC and Women's Aid. Also points out that the FUE were given four seats on the Committee despite the fact that they objected strongly to equal pay for women. Continues 'The Committee is simply a hurriedly scrambled-together body set up just in time for the International Women's Year so that the Irish Minister for Labour will have something—anything—to show his United National colleagues. It is a body which will not make embarrassing demands, but which just might convince Irish women that Someone Up There really cares. This Association is far from convinced.' (7 January 1975, 1p).
- Official programme of the Council for the Status of Women seminar on 'Equality, Development, Peace' held in the RDS to mark International Women's Year (1–2 February 1975, 2pp).
- Copy of an article by the women's page editor Janet Martin entitled 'What ever happened to sisterhood?' published in the *Irish Independent*. Refers to the continuing strained relationship between some women's organisations and the Council for the Status of Women. Outlines the challenges facing the Council and observes that the Council is too 'genteel' in its efforts to challenge discrimination against women and is not adequately consolidating the views of its membership. Refers specifically to the difficulties between the Council and the WPA citing a number of incidences where differences of opinion arose describing the relationship as 'threadbare'. Refers also to the sacking of the WPA delegates from the Council because the Council now views the WPA membership as 'in abeyance'. Continues 'If the council is not in effect riding roughshod over democracy nor is it making any attempts to cover its tracks. The shrouds of secrecy creates suspicion ... Certainly from the point of view of observer and commentator I would settle for a return to the spirit of sisterhood I used to know.' (8 April 1975, 2pp).
- Copy of notes by GH for a committee meeting of the WPA. Informs the meeting that the National Women's Talent Bank Committee has been set up and asks for two volunteers to join her on the committee (25 November 1975, 2pp).
- Correspondence between GH and Joy O'Farrell, Chairperson of the WPA concerning an article by GH to be published in

Hibernia. Copy of a letter (incomplete) from GH expressing her annoyance at being asked by Joy O'Farrell to supply a copy of the script to the WPA committee in advance of the publication in case it contained anything that may cause 'dissension'. Remarks that she does not understand the logic of this reasoning remarking that the work of the WPA would be compromised if every comment had to be vetted by the committee 'If you distrust what I might say, please instruct me in writing to disassociate myself from the WPA and I shall expect the same treatment given to any Committee member or ordinary member who is asked to write or to speak on anything; that effectively prevents anyone speaking for the WPA unless the Committee have gone through their script ... I now ask that reason prevail and we all do as much as we can for the WPA without getting embroiled in jealousies or political side-swipes or whatever is motivating this nonsense.' (17 December 1975, 1p).

- Reply from Joy O'Farrell, 'Dornton', 11 Brewery Road, Stillorgan, Co Dublin expressing her surprise at the content of GH's letter and disputing a number of points made in the letter. Remarks that she considers it reasonable that the chairman should see a draft of an article about the organisation and does not agree with GH's contention that this is a 'vetting' procedure. Remarks 'It is natural that those who attend (meetings) regularly should resent an irregular attendee speaking publicly about committee projects without giving advance notice to anybody. When this is accompanied by titles such as vice-president and president annoyance grows. This kind of publicity is damaging to the association and not welcome.' Concludes 'I do not propose to reply to your charges of "jealousies and political sidesweeps" except to say that I am sure that you will realise on reflection that these are not factual but imaginary. I assure you that anything you are asked to do will be asked of any other member in similar circumstances.' (dated 19 December 1975 but sent with another letter on 4 January 1976, 3pp).
- Copy of a letter from GH, 43 St Kevin's Park, Dartry, Dublin 6 to Joy O'Farrell concerning the lack of consultation with the Women's Representative Committee (WRC) over the postponement of Equal Pay. Remarks that she seriously questions the sincerity of the Minister (O'Leary) and suggests that the three council members on the WRC resign (22 December 1975, 1p).
- Copy of the treasurer's report (31 December 1975, 1p).
- Copy of a report on the work of the WRC from December 1974 to December 1975 (31 December 1975, 11pp).
- Copy of the minutes of a meeting of the WPA. Reports on a lengthy discussion concerning equal pay and the invitation of guest speakers at a joint meeting with the North Dublin branch. Reference to an 'ad hoc' committee to deal with the national women's talent bank and the appointment of a number of delegates to the committee. Discussion concerning a new constitution of the WPA (13 January 1976, 1p).
- Letter from [Mavis Arnold], Secretary, WPA, Rosney House,

Albert Road, Glenageary, Co Dublin to Joy Farrell, Chairman, WPA concerning O'Farrell's invitation to committee members to comment on whether she should stand as Chairman of the organisation for another year. Offers her opinion on O'Farrell's leadership of the WPA. Remarks 'I don't think you ever sat down and actually thought about what you wanted to achieve. Since you didn't know what you wanted, you couldn't pass any inspiration on to us. Instead you told us endlessly that we didn't count for anything as an organisation ... and gradually we became passive and demoralised.' Refers to the future development of the organisation but remarks that she does not see a role for herself as Honorary Secretary (9 February 1976, 2pp).

- Summary of suggestions by GH on an approach that the WPA needs to take for the General Election (March 1976, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH, 43 St Kevin's Park, Dartry, Dublin 6 to Rory Dunne, Director, Irish Council of the European Movement (ICEM), 27 Merrion Square, Dublin 2 concerning an upcoming symposium entitled 'Ireland's Need for Social Planning'. Expresses her surprise and disappointment that there is no session concerning the area of working women and the appropriate childcare needs of working mothers. Expresses more dismay that there is not one female speaker or chairperson for the two days of the symposium describing them as 'glaring omissions' and asks what steps will be taken to address them (10 March 1976, 1p)
- Copy of the programme of the ICEM symposium entitled 'Ireland's Need for Social Planning' (22-23 March 1976, 1 item).
- Reply from Rory Dunne, Director, ICEM to GH explaining that all of the individuals in positions of power (government) and influence are all men and that he did endeavour to seek the participation of one of the country's preeminent researcher's in the field of social policy, a woman, but she was not able to take part in the symposium. Expresses his wish that important issues relating to women, gender equality, provision of childcare as well as many other issues facing the country's workforce will be raised during the two day conference (15 March 1976, 2pp).
- Copy of a submission by the Women's Representative Committee to Mr F Cluskey TD, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Social Welfare on the discrimination against women in Social Security. The submission is presented in two parts and includes reference to overt discrimination against women in the areas of unemployment assistance, the rate and duration of unemployment benefit payable to married women, pay-related social welfare contributions. Raises concerns relating to the lack of support for women in the home, the lack of access to treatment benefits, the introduction of an allowance for non-working mothers, introduction of equal access to occupational pension schemes (25 March 1976, 9pp).
- Copy of minutes of a WPA committee meeting. Reports that the WPA motion to increase the numbers serving on the executive of the Council for the Status of Women was defeated and, that in general, the AGM of the Council was 'most unsatisfactory'.

Refers to the upcoming general election and the importance of having a plan including raising funds, publicity literature, photographs (4 May 1976, 2pp).

- Extract from a speech delivered by GH at the inaugural meeting of the Shannon branch of the WPA (2 June 1976, 1p).
- Copy of minutes of a WPA committee meeting. Refers to a meeting of the Council for the Status of Women and the disappointing attendance. Reports that the political questionnaire will proceed as planned and that a sub-committee has been appointed. GH indicates willingness to be appointed to the sub-committee. Agreement that further discussion should take place. Refers to a meeting of members of the committee of the North Dublin branch to discuss the possibility of amalgamating with the South Dublin branch. Refers to the image this might portray and that there should be no publicity surrounding the proposed amalgamation (5 October 1976, 2pp).
- Copy of minutes of a WPA committee meeting. Lengthy discussion concerning the People of the Year Awards and a decision to nominate Nuala Fennell. Debate as to whether Nuala Fennell should make a public protest about the format of the jury (all male) on behalf of the WPA or issue a personal statement. Discussion concerning the questions to be asked and the order of the questions for the political questionnaire. GH remarking that she wanted to have the format of the questionnaire completed, ready to be circulated to the 144 TDs by the end of November 1976. Agreement that copies should also be circulated to the political correspondents and female journalists and the results of the questionnaire to appear on the political pages of the print media rather than the women's pages (2 November 1976, 2pp).
- Copy of a submission by GH to the WPA committee on the Law of Nullity. Outlines what she thinks are the main points that should be included in the WPA's submission on the subject of marriage and marriage dissolution to the Attorney General (23 November 1976, 1p).
- Copy of a discussion document by Maeve Breen, BCL, LLB entitled 'Nullity—A Second Look' ([November] 1976, 2pp).
- Copy of notes by GH summarising her thoughts on the discussion paper on the Law of Nullity in Ireland ([November 1976], 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH, 43 St Kevin's Park, Dartry, Dublin 6 to Fergus Pyle, Editor, *Irish Times*, D'Olier Street, Dublin 2 regarding what she describes as the '... extraordinary campaign ...' and negative comment about the right of married women to work. Asks if he would allow her space to write an article for the newspaper on this subject matter (14 December 1976, 1p).
- Copy of an article by GH entitled 'Married Women: Crooked Thinking' intended for publication in the *Irish Times*. (20 December 1976, 3pp).
- Copies of newspaper cuttings reporting on the results of a survey commissioned by the WPA on politician's attitudes to social issues concerning women (2 June 1977, 6pp).

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- Promotional material relating to the WPA's 'Why not a woman' campaign for the general election (1977, 5 items).
- Biographical profiles of the 26 women candidates contesting the general election (1977, 1p).
- Copy of an extract from a speech by GH at a public meeting of the Married Person's Tax Reform Association (14 July 1977, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH to The Editor, *Irish Independent*, Middle Abbey Street, Dublin 1 asking for a correction to be published in the newspaper regarding the ambiguous impression given by the Department of Finance on the taxation of married couples (15 July 1977, 1p).
- Copy of minutes of a committee meeting of the WPA. Congratulations offered to GH on her election to the Senate (13 September 1977, 2pp).
- Copy of a paper delivered by GH to the Irish Medical Union's symposium entitled 'Teenage Mores' (22 October [1977], 4pp).
- Copy of an article published in *Magill* by Mary Holland concerning the political questionnaire commissioned by the WPA. Includes a summary of the scores from the questionnaires (November 1977, 3pp).
- Letter from Doreen Dalton, Secretary, WPA, South Dublin Branch to GH, 29 Temple Road, Dublin 6 thanking her for her contribution to a WPA seminar. Thanks her on behalf of the committee of the WPA for her '...constant and active encouragement ...' (11 December 1978, 1p).
- Copy of a report to the German Marshall Fund of the United States by Mavis Arnold. The report was compiled as a result of a successful application by the WPA for two members, Phil Moore and Mavis Arnold, to travel to the US in October and November 1980 to observe the techniques used for the promotion and encouragement of the participation of women in American political life (1 February 1981, 19pp).

2.1.2 Education and Outreach 1970-80

P179/34 1970s-80s

14pp

Seminars

File of mostly programmes of seminars organised by the WPA on topics relevant to women's issues. Themes include women in political life, equal opportunities and education, feminism.

P179/35 26 November 1983–16 February 1984

71pp

Women in Irish Politics

Paper and a report concerning women's role in Irish politics.

Includes:

- Copy of a paper by Yvonne Scannell presented to a meeting of the WPA entitled 'Alice in Wonderland: Women in Irish Politics' (26 November 1983, 17pp).
- Copy of a submission prepared by members of the South Dublin Branch of the WPA concerning women and the political system ([1983/4], 7pp).
- Copy of an analysis of Dáil election 1957–82 ([1983/4, 29pp).

P179/36 August 1974–June 1976

48pp

Newsletters

File of newsletters circulated to the membership of the WPA.

2.1.3 Political Questionnaire 1976–77

P179/37 10 September 1976–8 March 1977

74pp

Administration File

Notes, sample questionnaire, press release, correspondence concerning the questionnaire on women's issues circulated by the WPA to all Dáil Deputies. The purpose of the questionnaire was to elicit information from elected representatives about their opinions on the major issues affecting women in Ireland. The information was gathered so that women could make an informed decision about who they would vote for in the next general election.

Includes:

- Copy of a press release outlining the background to the questionnaire, the purpose of it, the areas covered by the questionnaire and information regarding the analysis of results. Remarks that it is planned to publish the results during the general election campaign. Remarks also that 'appropriate publicity' will be given to those who do not respond and that several reminders will be sent (19 November 1976, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from Gemma Hussey, Vice-Chairman of the WPA to The Producer, The Politics Programme, RTE, Montrose, Dublin 4 enclosing a copy of the WPA questionnaire and informing the programme that the WPA would be happy to

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- provide further information ([19 November 1976], 1p).
- Reply from John Kelleher, The Editor, The Politics Programme, RTE, Montrose, Dublin 4 expressing his interest in the questionnaire. Indicates his willingness to use the results of the questionnaire during election time and proposes also to consider the information obtained from the questionnaire for a separate programme (25 November 1976, 1p).
- Covering letters and reminder letters urging recipients to complete the questionnaire (3 December 1976–8 March 1977, 56pp).

P179/38 4 February–23 March 1977

c200pp

Responses to Questionnaire

File of covering letters and completed questionnaires. In some instances responses to the survey was based on a whole party reaction to the questions posed.

Includes:

- Letter from Oliver J Flanagan, Minister for Defence to Audrey Conlon, Secretary, WPA, 'Grianan', Military Road, Killiney, Co Dublin. Excuses the long delay in returning the questionnaire (attached, 4pp) and remarks that his answers reflect the views of the Fine Gael Party remarking that he is in 'full agreement' (4 February 1977, 1p).
- Letter from J [Jack] Lynch TD to Audrey Conlon, Secretary, WPA indicating that the replies to the questionnaire (attached, 2pp) represent the views of the entire Parliamentary Party (23 March 1977, 1p).
- Letter from T O'Connor TD, Fianna Fáil deputy for Kerry South to Audrey Conlon, Secretary, WPA remarking that he will not fill out the questionnaire and describing it as a 'directive'. Continues 'I have very decided ideas of women's role in life and in my own county the women are doing a great job of work in keeping their homes going and directing and bringing up their families. This I think is what almighty God intended them to do ...' (9 March 1977, 2pp).
- Letter from Richie Ryan TD, Minister for Finance to Phil Moore, WPA, c/o Grianan, Military Road, Killiney, Co Dublin apologising for not replying sooner to the questionnaire (attached, 4pp). (25 March 1977, 1p).
- Copy of the Fianna Fáil Party responses to the questionnaire ([March 1977], 4pp).
- Copy of the Fine Gael Party responses to the questionnaire ([March 1977], 3pp).

74pp

Correspondence Relating to Questionnaire

File of letters concerning the response by TDs to the questionnaire. Damage to the file has resulted in these letters becoming detached from the questionnaire forms.

Includes:

- Note from Senator Noel Browne adding further comments to his response to the questionnaire. Refers specifically to the rights of children and the emotional development of children during their early years. Expresses the opinion that at least one parent should stay at home while children are young and that the parent out working should endeavour to avoid overtime or weekend work so that the child can have consistent emotional support of both parents ([March 1977], 1p).
- Letter from Paddy Power, TD addressed 'Dear Madam'. Refers to the Fianna Fáil Party response to the survey. Remarks that he considers the 'circular' as a threat to a sitting TD due to the timing of the questionnaire results to coincide with the general election campaign. Remarks 'Constituents of mine know me and know my form. Women looking for my assistance get the same treatment as men. I see no reason to discriminate.' Concludes 'I would say to the Women's Political Association, be a little more discreet in framing your circulars.' (25 November 1976, 1p).
- Letter from Garret FitzGerald, Minister for Foreign Affairs to GH concerning his response to the questionnaire describing it as extremely useful' but remarks '... that it should not be used in a counter-productive way as a means of attacking politicians ...' (25 November 1976, 1p).
- Letter from Senator Mary Robinson to GH praising the efforts of the WPA in circulating the questionnaire expressing the view that it will have '...considerable indirect effect ...' (6 December 1976, 1p).
- Letter from Senator Ruairi Quinn to Audrey Conlon concerning his response to the questionnaire. Elaborates further on a number of the questions to explain his position. Remarks that he does not like the idea of allowing full maternity leave and the equalisation of taxation for married couples and single workers and the impression that the state is paying mothers to have children. Declares that his concern is seeing more radical socialist politicians elected, either male or female. Remarks 'I believe that many women would not support some of the family law proposals in your document ... While these proposals are not exclusively women's issues, divorce, family planning, the absence of these has in my experience damaged women more than men in our society.' (8 December 1976, 2pp).
- Letter from Michael O'Leary, Minister for Labour apologising for the delay in returning the questionnaire. Remarks 'Unfortunately, as you know, women have been the voting fodder of conservative forces in our society in every election

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- since the State was established (10 December 1976, 1p).
- Letter from Brigid Hogan-O'Higgins TD to Audrey Conlon expressing her dismay that the WPA '... threatened political blackmail ...' relating to the completion of the questionnaire and collation of the results. Remarks that she believe that this may affect the responses. Refers individually to some of the questions posed and states that with regard to question 2 asking about the introduction of a quota system would be '... quite undemocratic and unworkable.' (16 December 1976, 1p).
- Letter from Justin Keating, Minister for Industry and Commerce to GH apologising for the delay in returning the questionnaire and remarking 'You will find that the implications of the second last para of your letter (analysis, publication etc) will result in your appearing to get more positive support from males in politics than really exists.' (23 December 1976, 1p).
- Letter from Des O'Malley TD to Audrey Conlon informing her that one reply will be sent on behalf of all members of the Fianna Fáil Party (15 March 1977, 1p).

P179/40 April-June 1977

92pp

Analysis of Questionnaire

File relating to the analysis of the responses to the questionnaire. Lists of individual Senators and TDs who did/did not reply to the questionnaire, lists of individual TDs and Senators who replied via their Party. Analysis of the responses to each question posed, suggestions on how to present the results, constituency breakdown of the results, summary of the results, copy of a confidential memorandum concerning the breakdown of the results.

Includes:

- Notes concerning suggestions on how to present the results of the survey ([April] 1977, 2pp).
- Lists of replies received and refusals to participate broken down by Party and then individual TD/Senator ([May] 1977, 6pp).
- Summary of the scores for each question, broken down by constituency, individual TD/Senator and Party affiliation ([May], 1977, 3pp).
- Draft of an invitation to attend the presentation of the results of the questionnaire and list of journalists to be invited (1 June 1977, 3pp).
- Copies of a presentation of the results of the questionnaire by GH, the WPA spokesperson on the questionnaire ([June] 1977, 6pp).

2.1.4 Publications 1976-[81]

P179/41-47 September 1976-[1981]
7 items

Journal

Series of Journals published by the WPA

P179/41 September 1976
16pp
Journal No. 7

P179/42 Winter 1977
12pp
Journal No. 8

P179/43 Spring 1977
12pp
Journal No. 10

P179/44 Winter 1977
8pp
Journal No. 10

P179/45 Winter 1978
12pp
Journal No. 12

P179/46 Winter 1979
12pp
Journal No. 14

P179/47 [1981]
7pp
Journal No. 17

2.2 Council for the Status of Women [1973]–80

P179/48 [1973]; May 1974–21 April 1980
104pp

Administration File

**see also
P179/33**

Minutes of meetings, reports, press releases concerning the work of the Council for the Status of Women. Established as an ad hoc committee in 1968 ultimately leading to the setting up of a Commission on the Status of Women on 31 March 1970. In 1973 the Commission made public a report of their findings which was accepted by the government who promised to implement the recommendations. The ad hoc committee progressed into the Council for the Status of Women representing 25 women's national organisations and a membership of c250,000.

Includes:

- Copy of a brief history of the Council for the Status of Women. Outlines the background to the establishment of the Council and the objects of the Council ([1973], 1p).
- Copies of the constitution of the Council (May 1974, 5pp).
- Copy of a draft of amendments to the constitution of the Council. Annotated (28 May 1975, 5pp).
- Copies of cuttings of articles by Christina Murphy published in the *Irish Times* reporting on a dispute between the Council and delegates from the WPA and their right to attend the AGM of the Council. The dispute arose due to differing opinions between the Council and the WPA over the format of the Women's Representative Committee appointed by the Minister for Labour Michael O'Leary (26–27 March 1975, 3pp).
- Copy of the minutes of the AGM of the Council including a copy of the Chairman's (Hilda Tweedy) remarks (28 May 1975, 4pp).
- Record of ongoing discussion concerning the Equal Pay Act and the deferment of equal pay. Discussion concerning the fact that equal pay is now law in Ireland and the possibility of taking a test case as well as garnering support from TDs and Senators. Agreement that a deputation should meet with the

Minister, Michael O'Leary as well as letters to be sent to Ireland's Commissioner in Brussel, Dr Patrick Hillery. Agreement that the Council had to fight for the right for equal pay and that a representative should travel to Brussels. Report from the Chairman Mrs Hilda Tweedy about her visit to Strasbourg in advance of a decision on equal pay, who she met and the discussions that took place. Remarks that the [European Economic] Community '... would be very reluctant to grant a derogation.' (5 January-18 February 1976, 6pp).

- Copy of a press release relating to a meeting between a deputation from the Council and officials of the EEC concerning their examination of the economic situation in Ireland and the implementation of equal pay. Outlines the points put forward by the Council at the meeting. Concludes 'The Council pointed out that Equal Pay is now a vested legal right and financial solutions must be found to implement it.' (20 February 1976, 2pp).
- Copy of a proposal to amend the constitution of the Council submitted by the WPA (19 March 1976, 1p).
- Copies of the Secretary's report and address by the Chairman to the AGM of the Council (3 May 1976, 5pp).
- Copy of minutes of a special meeting concerning family planning. Lists a number of questions that affiliate organisations were asked to respond to and the results of this questionnaire. Also lists the individual comments made by some affiliates regarding the issue (18 October 1976, 3pp).
- Copy of minutes of a committee meeting of the Council. Discussion concerning the establishment of a European office and what this would cost. Agreement that a letter should be sent to the Minister Michael O'Leary appealing to the government to match the contribution by the EEC of £3500 to support this venture (8 January 1977, 2pp).
- Copy of an address by Anne Kavanagh, outgoing chairwoman of the Council. Refers to the financial situation of the Council and the situation that the Council now finds itself in as a Government Funded Body but receiving far less than is needed to fulfil their obligations. Summarises the challenges facing the Council and the urgent work ahead including the under representation of women on State sponsored boards, the law on Domicile and Criminal Conversation, rape, proposals to build a new women's prison, childcare, the provision of maternity protection legislation, women returning to work, adequate representation at the UN Conference in Copenhagen concerning progress made and obstacles in meeting the objectives of the UN Decade for Women, free legal aid, the Family Home Protection Act (21 April 1980, 6pp).

P179/49 21 May 1976–23 June 1980

20pp

Correspondence

File of correspondence relating to the work of the committee of the Council concerning points GH wishes to raise at meetings she cannot attend and points of information to be raised at Council meetings.

Includes:

- Copy of a letter from GH, 43 St Kevin's Park, Dartry, Dublin 6 to Rosaleen [] congratulating the Council on their success in being approached to set up an Information Office for women in Dublin by the EEC. Describes it as a 'breakthrough' for Irish women and the importance of being informed of progress in other European countries. Outlines the skills she has (Economic and Political Science degree and fluency in French and Spanish) that may prove useful to the project (19 September 1976, 1p).
- Letter from Anne [Kavanagh], Cabra Villa, Old Cabra Road, Dublin 7 to GH expressing her regret that GH is to retire from the Council (8 April 1977, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from Senator GH, Seanad Éireann to Anne Kavanagh, Chairwoman, Council for the Status of Women expressing her deep disappointment at the content of a letter (copy enclosed dated 9 December 1977, 1p) sent by the Council to the Department of Foreign Affairs commenting on the 'Status of Women' fact sheet updated by GH at the request of the Department. Remarks that criticism contained in the letter contrasts sharply with the positive comments received from other agencies and organisations and remarks that this negativity '...may well convince the Department of Foreign Affairs that no further interest should be shown in women.' Requests that this letter is read at the next full Council meeting and demands an apology from the Council (19 December 1977, 2pp).
- Letter from Ena Meehan, Honorary Secretary, Council for the Status of Women to Senator GH acknowledging her letter which was read out in full to the January meeting of the Council. Remarks that the Council endorsed the action taken and expresses the view of the Council that 'In the political development of women Council feels it is important we should feel free to disagree honourably with each other especially when there is a question of the choice of data in building the public image of a group representing 250,000 women.' (3 February 1978, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH to Ena Meehan, Honorary Secretary, Council for the Status of Women congratulating the Council on the content of a press release issued by the Council entitled 'Who Makes the Decisions? Women on the Boards of State Sponsored Bodies' (copy enclosed dated 21 April 1980, 1p) (25 April 1980, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from Senator GH to Geraldine Watts, Honorary Secretary, Council for the Status of Women expressing her

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unease at the level of political involvement at Executive level in the Council. Refers specifically to Hazel Boland and Monica Barnes. Remarks that it is vital that the Council is free of and be seen to be free of political influences. Remarks that the recent press statement issued by the Council relating to Family Law Reform and specifically rape and criminal conversation appears to be politically motivated. Continues 'Monica's party are now in Opposition so she can criticize the Government as much as she likes and be congratulated for it; Hazel's party is in Government so she cannot have it both ways. I believe it is destructive for the Council to have members of the executive who will be looking for office next time round ... I believe that the wisest step would be for anybody who will be seeking a party nomination in the next election to declare the fact now and to step down from office ... Please accept the spirit in which this letter is written; I do so out of concern for women, and concern for the future of the Council which might be manipulated by politicians and lose all its credibility.' (1 July 1980, 2pp)

2.3 National Women's Talent Bank 1974-78

P179/50 5 June 1974-14 March 1978

c200pp

Administration File

Correspondence, minutes of meetings, notes, copies of newspaper cuttings, lists concerning the establishment of a national talent list. The decision to establish the talent bank was a response to recommendations in the Report of the Commission on the Status of Women (1973). The talent bank compiled a register of women willing and qualified to serve on state boards or commissions and to provide Government Departments and other nominating bodies with a list of women suitable for appointments. In April 1976 the WPA and the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Club (BPW) joined forces and established a joint committee of the National Women's Talent Bank (NWTB) in order to pursue their aims at a national level.

Includes:

- Two copies of a proposal to establish a national talent list committee. Proposers were Dr Blanche Weekes, Cliona McMahon and GH. A formal invitation was issued to a number of women's organisations to discuss the proposal including Business and Professional Woman's Organisation, Soroptimists, ICA, Federation of Irish University Women and the WPA. Includes an outline of the formation of the committee and how it would operate. Remarks that the committee would operate under the aegis of the Council for the Status of Women but would remain autonomous (Not dated, 2pp).
- Draft of a letter from GH, Press Officer, NWTB to nominating bodies drawing attention to the existence of the NWTB and

- encouraging them to consider nominating a women to represent their organisation. Annotated (Not dated, 1p).
- Letter from Blanche Weekes, National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs of the Republic of Ireland, 11 Brookville Park, Blackrock, Co. Dublin to GH acknowledging her letter and information about the WPA public service list. Remarks that she and her organisation are wholly supportive of the initiative and that more women's organisations should be encouraged to get involved in trying to increase women representatives on committees. Expresses the opinion that it is difficult to make an impression in this area (5 June 1974, 1p).
 - Letter from Blanche Weekes to GH informing her of a recent meeting of the BPW and agreement that a committee be formed consisting of the three members of the WPA and three from the BPW, that the initiative be named the National Talent Bank, that she (Blanche Weekes) would assume the role of Chairman initially and that the government should be approached for financial assistance (28 October 1974, 1p).
 - Letter from Blanche Weekes to GH seeking to arrange a meeting between the BPW talent bank committee and the WPA women's public service list committee with a view to combining the two as a National Talent Bank. Encloses a copy of the BPW committee meeting minutes at which the item was discussed (16 & 31 January 1975, 2pp).
 - Letter from Eileen Desmond, Chairperson, Women's Representative Committee, Ansley House, Mespil Road, Dublin 4 to GH, Vice Chairman, WPA acknowledging the decision of the WPA committee to make available a list of women eligible to serve on state sponsored committees, commission etc to her as Chairman of the WPA (26 March 1975, 1p).
 - Copy of a letter from GH, Vice Chairman, WPA to Eileen Desmond, Chairman, Women's Representative Committee referring to a report in the *Irish Times* that the Minister for Industry and Commerce had appointed an all male board of directors to Ardmore Studios. Expresses her alarm at this. Asks if the Department of Industry and Commerce contacted the Women's Representative Committee (WRC) for a list of possible nominees. Remarks 'We are keeping a very careful record of all appointments made, and we ask your assistance ... The Committee naturally feel concerned that our enthusiastic co-operation with you seems to be yielding no results whatever. We would be most grateful for a statement from you on what degree of co-operation you have been getting from the Government on this question.' (12 June 1975, 1p).
 - Copy of the minutes of the [first] committee meeting of the National Women's Talent Bank. Provides details of the membership of the committee and the official name. Outlines changes to the application form to be included on the register (18 November 1975, 2pp).
 - Copy of the suggested constitution of the NWTB ([November 1975], 1p).
 - Copy of a letter from GH, 43 St Kevin's Park, Dartry, Dublin 6 to Dr Blanche Weekes, Anatomy Department, Trinity College, Dublin 2 agreeing with suggestions for the formation of the

- committee of the NWTB (14 January 1976, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH, Vice Chairman, WPA and NWTB to Elizabeth Murphy, Secretary, WRC, Annesley House, Mespil Road, Dublin 4 informing her of the formation of the NWTB. Remarks that on behalf of the NWTB committee she has been asked to contact the WRC with a view to obtaining information about progress made in 1975 concerning contact between government departments and the WRC and suggestions of suitable women to be appointed to committees/commissions, how many submissions were made by the WRC and how many women were appointed to serve on public boards/commissions. Remarks that this information has been sought before from the WRC but met with no response (14 January 1976, 1p).
 - Copy of the rules of the NWTB with amendments (22 March 1976, 1p).
 - Copy of the minutes of a NWTB committee meeting. Introduction of the new Chairman Mrs Louie Somerville. Discussion concerning the layout of the application forms and agreement that one copy of a completed form is retained by the NWTB and the other sent to the WRC. Appointment of GH as PRO of the NWTB. Includes copies of the application form and the rules of the NWTB attached to the minutes (6 April 1976, 5pp).
 - Copy of a press statement prepared by GH introducing the NWTB. Outlines the functions of the organisation (5 May 1976, 1p).
 - Copy of a letter from Mrs Louie Somerville, Chairman, NWTB to Aine Boland, Trinity Hall, Dartry Road informing her of the possibility of being offered an appointment on the National Health Council by the Minister for Health, Brendan Corish. Outlines the terms of reference of the National Health Council. A copy of the same letter was sent to Dr M McEntaggart (6 May 1976, 1p).
 - Copy of a letter from GH, Public Relations Officer, NWTB to The Editors of the *Irish Times*, *Irish Independent*, *Irish Press*, *Hibernia*, *Irish Business* and *Irish Medical Journal* congratulating the Minister for Health for appointing two women to the National Health Council. Welcomes also the recent appointment by Dr Cruise O'Brien of a Chairwoman (Mrs Sheila Conroy) and another woman (Mrs Cliona McMahon) to the RTE Authority. Sends out a call to women in Ireland to submit their names to the NWTB list (7 June 1976, 1p).
 - Copy of the minutes of a committee meeting of the NWTB. Agreement that nominating bodies must also be persuaded to use the talent bank list. Acknowledgement that the letter to the national newspapers had garnered a very positive response with a list of over one hundred names now on the register (28 June 1976, 1p).
 - Copy of minutes of a NWTB committee meeting. Discussion concerning the re-appointment of a man to the Pigs and Bacon Advisory Committee despite the nomination of a 'very qualified' woman by the Irish Countrywomen's Association (ICA).

Remarks that the Farmers Unions were not supportive. Agreement that GH would find out the background and report back (30 August 1976, 2pp).

- Copy of a letter from GH, Public Relations Officer, NWTB to Patsy Lawlor, President, ICA, 58 Merrion Road, Dublin 4 asking her for information concerning the ICA nomination to the Pigs and Bacon Commission which was rejected by the Minister. Thanks the ICA for their co-operation with the NWTB list (7 September 1976, 1p).
- Copy of minutes of a committee meeting of the NWTB. Report from GH concerning the increase in the numbers of members on the Pigs and Bacon Commission and the intention of the ICA to put forward another nomination (4 October 1976, 1p).
- Copy of the minutes of a committee meeting of the NWTB. Decision taken to compile a report for press publication in April to mark the first year of the NWTB committee. Agreement that all voluntary hospitals be approached to make them aware of the NWTB list and to encourage them to appoint more women to the boards of these hospitals (11 January 1977, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from Patricia Davys, Joint Honorary Secretary, Irish Housewives Association, 8 Dawson Street, Dublin 2 to the Taoiseach Jack Lynch expressing their dismay that no woman was appointed to the Law Reform Commission. Remarks 'We ask ourselves could it be possible that there is no suitably qualified member of the female sex who could help to balance the male thinking in such an important group?' (19 January 1977, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from Louie Somerville, Chairman, NWTB to Michael O'Leary, Minister for Labour expressing the 'astonishment and deep sense of frustration' that the recent appointment to the Labour Court was not a woman. Expresses the opinion that it is 'ludicrous' that the Court is all male and points out that many of the cases that come before it deal directly with working women. Further remarks 'It is particularly regrettable for us—after the support you once seemed to give us that in this instance you made no approach to the WRC, a Committee you yourself set up to implement the recommendations of the Commission [for the Status of Women] ... All we ask is that where qualifications are equal an equitable combination of men and women should be appointed on bodies set up by the Government ... the Labour Court is an instance where proper representation of women is vitally needed.' (20 January 1977, 1p).
- Letter from Susan Denham, 80 Lower Churchtown Road, Dublin 15 to GH, NWTB, 152 Howth Road, Sutton, Co Dublin concerning her name being entered on the register maintained by the NWTB. Remarks that her particular area of interest is family law (21 January 1977, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH, Press Officer, National Women's Talent Bank Committee to Marianne Heron, Editor 'Independent Woman', *Irish Independent*, Dublin 1 concerning the first report of the NWTB (holograph and typescript drafts attached, 3pp). Remarks that she would be very grateful for any publicity for the report (7 July [1977], 1p).

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- Copies of a lists of appointments of women to state boards, committees and commissions during 1976–1977 ([1977], 7pp).
- Copy of a letter from Louie Somerville, Chairman, NWTB, 152 Howth Road, Sutton, Co Dublin to the national print media concerning the representation of women on boards and committees set up by the government. Acknowledges that the NWTB has the goodwill of the government in this regard and that to achieve success co-operation from the nominating bodies is also vital. Calls on government ministers to ensure that the nominating bodies are aware of the register maintained by the NWTB (19 October 1977, 1p).
- Copy of the minutes of a committee meeting of the NWTB. Refers to GH election to the Senate and the opportunity this will afford the NWTB of early notice of proposed boards and commissions (1 November 1977, 1p).
- Copy of the minutes of a committee meeting of the NWTB. Report of a meeting with Mr Ahern, Department of Labour and a suggestion the Council for the Status of Women be asked to consider taking over the role of the Women's Representative Committee with the current term finishes. Agreement that careful consideration is given to this proposal. Announcement of retirements from the committee of the NWTB including the Chairman Louie Somerville and Senator GH (14 March 1978, 1p).

2.4 Multi Denominational Education 1974–81

P179/51 15 June 1974–8 December 1980

92pp

Dalkey School Project

File of circulars, newsletters, copies of newspaper cuttings, correspondence, notices concerning the setting up of an association committed to the provision of a multi-denominational national school in Dalkey, county Dublin, democratically managed with a child-centred approach to education.

Includes:

- Circular from Michael Johnston, Convenor, 20 Burdett Avenue, Sandycove, Co. Dublin outlining the aims and objectives of an association of interested parties who wish to establish a multi-denomination school in the Dalkey area. Explains the reasons why the association wishes to pursue the project and the importance of gaining support in order to achieve success. Explains that to formally establish the Dalkey School Project (DSP) two meetings will be held to discuss general principles and to approve a constitution. The latter meeting will essentially establish the association with an elected committee and officers (15 June 1974, 1p).
- Copy of the agenda and notes for the inaugural meeting of the DSP in Ross's Hotel, Dun Laoghaire. Items on the agenda include the proposed Constitution, a proposal to form the DSP, the election of officers and executive committee. Outlines the five principles for the Dalkey pilot school (23 February 1975,

- 1p).
- Copy of a DSP newsletter. Reports on progress made in canvassing residents in the Dalkey area and contact with the Minister for Education about opening a pilot school in September 1977. Remarks that this will only be possible if recognition by the Minister is received. Lists the DSP committee members for 1977 and the Council of the DSP (March 1977, 3pp).
 - Notice of a motion to dissolve the Association—the DSP—to form a new company (Dalkey School Project) limited by guarantee and having the same aims and objectives as the Association (23 October 1977, 1p).
 - Copy of a circular letter of the DSP announcing that the Minister for Education, John Wilson, has given the ‘green light’ to establish a pilot school. Remarks ‘We have the commitment, we have the will; we have shown that we have both enthusiasm and stamina. Money is the final element in the equation’. Appeals for a financial contribution from members of the DSP. (November 1977, 1p).
 - Copy of a leaflet issued by the Council of Social Concern, Ely House, 8 Ely Place, Dublin 2 entitled ‘The Dalkey School Saga Has the Government Surrendered to the Multi-Denominational Pressure Groups?’ Outlines their opinion on the background to the establishment of a multi-denominational school and expresses their deep concern over the ways in which DSP has garnered support for their enterprise. Refers to the dangers of atheism and claims that the title ‘multi-denominational school’ will ultimately lead to no religion being taught in the school and will also ‘colour’ the teaching of other secular subjects. Remarks ‘We submit that there is no need for such a school as this which can only be divisive. It can only be hostile to religion ... The Project has consciously set itself up as a “beacon” to encourage similar projects elsewhere. Dalkey could be a precedent for major trouble in other areas.’ Concludes ‘You who receive this leaflet are part of the area from which the Project claims overwhelming support. If you value your denominational school, if you are cynical about educational entrepreneurs, if you hold no brief for ‘surveys’ or school-piracy, please let it be known loud and clear.’ ([November] 1977, 2pp).
 - Copy of an article published in the [*Irish Times*] entitled ‘Leaflet attacks Dalkey school plan’. Refers to the leaflet published by a group calling itself the Council for Social Concern. Outlines the allegations made in the leaflet (2 November 1977, 1p).
 - Copy of a letter from Senator GH to ‘the Editor’, *Irish Times* referring to the ‘Dalkey leaflet’. Appeals to public representatives in the Dalkey area to denounce the leaflet describing it as ‘dangerously bigoted’ (19 November 1977, 1p).
 - Copy of a newspaper cutting reporting on a group of parents in Bray who are attempting to establish a committee for a multi-denominational school ([November] 1977, 1p).
 - Copy of a DSP newsletter commenting on the leaflet circulated by the Council of Social Concern. Refers to the untrue statements made in the leaflet and encourages members to

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continue to defend DSP through letters to the press and writing to the Minister for Education, John Wilson. Reports also that one the legal requirements have been fulfilled the recent motion passed at the AGM will result in the winding up of the old Association and the formation of a Company Limited by Guarantee. Remarks that the Department of Education has approved the Articles of Association in draft form and that the committee await further communication from the Departments of Finance and Industry and Commerce (December 1977, 4pp).

- Copy of a DSP newsletter which includes a draft of the patron's policy on religious education in a DSP school. Reminds members that the draft will be discussed at a general meeting. Refers to the support for multi-denomination education received from local councillors and political parties. Informs members that the DSP is supporting parents in the Bray area who also wish to establish a multi-denomination school in the area (February 1978, 4pp).
- Two more copies of the draft policy on religious education in a DSP school which was agreed at the general meeting on 23 February 1978. ([23 February 1978], 2pp).
- Copy of an information leaflet 'What is the Dalkey School Project?' (March 1978, 1p).
- Copy of a DSP newsletter announcing the opening of the first DSP National School in Dun Laoghaire in September 1978. Refers to the 'historic moment'. Remarks '... it will remind us of first of all of the origins of the National System of education which set out in 1831 to provide schools in which all Irish children from their diverse cultural and religious backgrounds might be educated together.' Refers to the opening of the school as a culmination of four years of effort by committed individuals 'The Dalkey School Project has convinced everyone it is for real, that it is no group of fly-by-nights with bees-in-bonnets; it has done this by its refusal to be discouraged by years of frustration, by apparently unsurmountable obstacles, by the general inertia of the system.' Provides details of the teachers employed in the school, pre-enrolment and enrolment, the site purchased for the new school building and the temporary premises at 14 Vesey Place, Dun Laoghaire. Refers to the Bray School Project Association and their wish to be affiliated with the DSP (July 1978, 4pp).

P179/52 November 1978–30 October 1981

57pp

Bray School Project Association

File of mostly newsletters relating to the establishment of a multi-denominational school in Bray, county Wicklow.

Includes:

- Copy of a Bray School Project Association newsletter reporting on a meeting with the DSP describing the topics discussed including policies of the DSP school, finance, pupil/teacher

ratios and curriculum, emphasising that the DSP school was subject to the same rules and regulations as all other National Schools as well as the management structure which conforms to the minimum requirements set down by the Department of Education. Refers to religious education in the DSP. Remarks that if Bray is to establish the second multi-denomination school in Ireland the DSP will be a strong influence on the structures that will need to be put in place (November 1978, 3pp).

- Copy of a Bray School Project Association newsletter giving a chronological account of their dealings with the Department of Education from September 1979 to March 1980. Remarks that it is not certain that their target date of September 1980 for the opening of the school will remain on track (April 1980, 5pp).
- Letter from Mary Bird, Bray School Project Association, 59 Herbert Park, Kilbride, Bray, Co. Wicklow to Senator GH acknowledging her support for the Associations efforts to open a multi-denominational school in Bray. Remarks that despite initial support from the Department of Education indicating that the school could open in September progress has slowed considerably resulting in the postponement of the target date. Appeals for her assistance with this effort (23 April 1980, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from Senator GH to John Wilson, Minister for Education, Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 expressing her disappointment at the apparent lack of progress of the Bray School Project and their efforts to open a multi-denominational school. Remarks 'I have read the correspondence with the Department of Education and find it incomprehensible that there has been such apparently deliberate foot-dragging on this issue.' Appeals to the Minister to take action (2 May 1980, 1p).
- Reply from P Heffernan Secretary to the Minister for Education acknowledging the letter from GH and remarking that the matter is being attended to by the Department and that a decision will be made as soon as possible (15 July 1980, 1p).
- Copy of a Bray School Project Association newsletter giving an account of the continuing correspondence with the Department of Education. Quotes, in full, the Minister's response following representations to him from local representatives. Includes information concerning the opening of a Bray School Project Pre-School (June 1980, 4pp)
- Copy of a Bray School Project Association newsletter announcing the 'green light' from the Minister for Education, John Wilson, to proceed with plans to open a multi-denominational national school. Remarks that the department did not sanction DSP as the patron body and that Bray School Project Association would need to form themselves into a limited company and become their own patron. Provides details of other practicalities including religious instruction, temporary premises, the site for the new school building, enrolment. Includes the agenda for the AGM (January 1981, 5pp).
- Copy of the draft policy on religious education in a Bray School

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- Project School ([March 1981], 1p).
- Copy of a Bray School Project Association newsletter announcing the Bray School Project Limited as the patron for the proposed school and approval from the Minister of Education for the proposed school from 1st September 1981 (June 1981, 2pp).
- Copy of a letter from Senator GH to An Taoiseach, Dr Garrett FitzGerald appealing for his assistance in influencing the Minister for Education, John Boland, to consider including multi-denominational schools in the 'special school' status in order for them to be eligible to receive funds for the financing of their school buildings. Remarks that she does not perceive John Boland as being 'sympathetic' towards Bray School Project (18 August 1981, 1p).
- Copy of an address by John Doyle, Chairman of the Bray School Project at the school's official opening (30 October 1981, 3pp).

2.5 Working Party on Women in Broadcasting 1978–81

P179/53 1978–4 May 1981

334pp

RTE Authority

Articles, notes, correspondence, copies of reports relating to the Working Party on Women in Broadcasting and a submission made to the RTE Authority and Senior Management by the Women in Broadcasting Study Group concerning the stereotyping of women in the media, gender imbalance, sexism and inequality.

Includes:

- Letter from Imelda de Paor, Secretary to the Working Party on Women in Broadcasting, RTE, Dublin 4 to Senator GH inviting her to make a submission to the Working Party (26 March 1979, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from Senator GH to Patrick J Moriarty, Chairman, RTE Authority, Donnybrook, Dublin 4 from Senator GH referring to a copy of the RTE Handbook for 1979 and expressing her dismay at the lack of progress being made to stop the stereotyping of women in advertisements. Expresses the opinion that this situation has been allowed to continue unchecked for too long. Urges the Authority to use its role to address this issue. Remarks that she is sending a copy of her letter to the Working Party and the Council for the Status of Women (28 April 1980, 2pp).
- Letter from PJ Moriarty, Chairman, RTE Authority, Dublin 4 to Senator GH, 29 Temple Road inviting her to make a presentation to the RTE Authority and senior management on the subject of broadcasting and advertising and the representation of women (27 June 1980, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from Senator GH to PJ Moriarty informing him of the equipment she needs for her presentation and

- requesting the presence of Mr Gahan and other members of staff with responsibility for advertising (30 October 1980, 1p).
- Copy of a statement issued by Senator GH concerning the Joint Committees on State Sponsored Bodies remarking that RTE is part of the next grouping of bodies to be examined. Refers to calls for submissions advertised in the National Press. Draws particular attention to the opportunity to submit views about RTE's projection of Irish women. A handwritten note on the statement indicates that it was sent to the Irish Housewives Association, the Irish Countrywomen's Association, AIM and other groups representing women (9 July 1980, 1p).
 - Copy of a letter from Senator GH to the Chairman, Joint Committee on State Sponsored Bodies, Leinster House, Dublin 2 concerning their examination of RTE. Draws attention to an article she contributed to the House Magazine of RTE which lead directly to the establishment of the radio programme 'Women Today', a very successful radio programme in terms of listenership and audience participation. Expresses her regret that since the publication of the article little has changed in terms of staffing and programming and advertising guidelines in RTE. Indicates her willingness to meet the members of the Committee. Concludes 'Positive discrimination, or, if you like, affirmative action, is the only way to overcome the back-log of exclusion in the past.' (5 August 1980, 1p).
 - Memorandum written by GH for the group preparing a submission to the RTE Authority. Outlines what she considers to be the best approach in gathering material together to support the submission. Lists the members of the group as Terry Prone, Ita Gibney, Audrey Conlon, Yvonne Scannell, Phil Moore, Doreen Dalton, Hilary Pratt, Mavis Arnold, Mary Forde and Gemma Hussey ([9] September 1980, 1p).
 - Draft and copy of notes of a meeting of the group preparing the submission for RTE. Decision taken that the submission would take the form of a video presentation as well as verbal and written. Outlines a number of suggestions discussed at the meeting as well as the distribution of assignments amongst the group (9 September 1980, 4pp).
 - Copy of a letter from GH to Patrick Moriarty, Chairman, RTE Authority concerning the submission to the RTE Authority and RTE Senior Management. Informs him that she has constituted a group to prepare the submission and has, as suggested by the Chairman, done so without any publicity. Asks that arrangements be made to facilitate the group and their submission at the November meeting of the Authority (10 September 1980, 1p).
 - Copy of a report by GH on the programmes, advertisements, voice overs portrayed on RTE 2 television station during the course of an evening's viewing. Concludes 'In a whole night's viewing, the women in Ads or in programmes were totally stereotyped as: glamorous, sexy or kittenish maidens or domestically obsessed wives and mums or stupid old gossips. There were no authority figures who were women, no female voice overs (perhaps 2), no men portraying caring or domestic

roles except “Flora” (a man holding his child’s hand—big deal). But a “plus”: presenter and continuity was a fairly ordinary looking lady and: Emer O’Kelly shared “Newsnight” which was otherwise totally male.’ (23 September 1980, 3pp).

- Copy of a list of management and senior staff in RTE separated according to gender and highlighting the imbalance between men and women in the various roles at the station (29 September 1980, 1p).
- Copy of an article published in the magazine *Cosmopolitan* entitled ‘Local Radio: short cut to the top’ by Joan Bernie. The introduction to the article states ‘One third of Britain’s radio audience tunes in to local commercial stations. This is a growth industry with enormous scope for women.’ (October 1980, 5pp).
- Draft script for the video part of the submission to the RTE Authority ([October] 1980, 23pp).
- Copy of notes of a meeting of the group preparing the submission for RTE. Refers to the draft script prepared by Terry Prone for the video part of the submission and congratulating her on her work. Decided that if the ‘Late Late Show’ does not include personnel from the submission group for their panel that consideration will focus on other ways to publicise the submission. Agreement that GH will speak ‘directly and in plain terms’ to Peter Feeney, producer on the ‘Late Late Show’ (7 October 1980, 1p).
- Notes made by GH following a meeting with Peter Feeney, producer on the ‘Late Late Show’ and summarising the main points of their conversation (8 October 1980, 2pp).
- Copy of recommendations for the RTE submission compiled by GH and presented (as suggested) to a meeting of the submission group (20 October 1980, 1p).
- Two lists of recommendations for submission to the RTE Authority ([October 1980], 2pp).
- Copy of a draft of the submission and copy of the submission entitled ‘Women and RTE—A Question of Balance’ to the RTE Authority by the ‘Women in Broadcasting Study Group’ (10 November 1980, 50pp).
- Copies of newspaper articles reporting on the submission by the Women in Broadcasting Study Group to the RTE Authority (11 November 1980, 11pp).
- Copy of a letter from GH to The Chairman, Joint Committee on State-Sponsored Bodies, Leinster House, Dublin 2 regarding the provision of the submission by the Women in Broadcasting Study Group to the Join Committee. Refers to the submission remarking ‘It sets out the kind of unease felt by women about the way RTE portrays women in general, and in particular about the lack of controls on sexism in advertising, and the low participation of women in News and Current Affairs programming.’ Asks if it is possible to make an oral submission to the Join Committee (14 November 1980, 1p).
- Copy of an article by Gay Byrne published in the *Sunday World* newspaper entitled ‘What a load of Rubbish from Gemma’. Criticises the submission made by the Women in Broadcasting Study Group to the RTE Authority describing it

as ‘... a silly, frivolous, inaccurate, downright dishonest and illogical ... piece of rubbish ... The damning thing about it is that the report COULD have been such a good one: it NEEDED to be a good one, but they took the easy way out. They blew it. And treating it even half seriously, on the Late Late Show or anywhere else in the media was being kind to them.’ (23 November 1980, 1p).

- Copy of a letter from Rita Daly (in fact the letter was written by Mary Forde who used a pseudonym), 8 Waterloo Road, Dublin 4 to Gay Byrne expressing her utter dismay at his criticism of GH and her appearance on his talk show the ‘Late Late Show’. Remarks ‘It was not enough to read out a number of letters criticising her in your morning programme for a week, you had to read out more on Saturday night and, not content with that, you had to deliver another broadside in the *Sunday World*. You are very lucky to have so many outlets for getting at people ... Is there any woman in RTE who would have the opportunity of criticising a man in the way in which you have attacked Senator Hussey’. (23 November 1980, 1p).
- Copy of a reply from Gay Byrne to Rita Daly (aka Mary Forde) responding to the criticisms in her letter to him. Defends his position in reading out critical letters on the ‘Late Late Show’ citing this as a policy of the programme. States that letters that both criticise the content of the show and the show itself are read out and comments ‘I think it is extremely admirable and democratic ...’ Continues ‘If you read my piece in the *Sunday World* a little more carefully you would have seen that I criticised not the Women’s Movement, but, the recent document. I stand over that criticism and I am joined in the criticism by many of the more honest members of the movement.’ (6 December 1980, 1p).
- Copy of *Access*, an internal newsletter for RTE staff outlining the reaction of staff in RTE to the recent submission to the RTE Authority by the Women in Broadcasting Study Group (27 November 1980, 8pp).
- Copy of a press release issued by Senator GH concerning a meeting between her, Ita Givney, Yvonne Scannell and Mavis Arnold and Jimmy Nolan, President of the Institute of Advertising Practitioners. Reports on a productive meeting and agreement between both sides that advertisers need to be aware of changing attitudes in society and reflect this in advertising (18 December 1980, 1p).
- Copies of a submission to the oral hearing by the Joint Committee on State Sponsored Bodies on RTE by Senator GH, Spokeswoman and accompanied by Mavis Arnold, Chairwoman of the Women’s Political Association (27 January 1981, 6pp).
- Proof copy of the transcript of Senator GH and Mavis Arnold’s contribution and appearance before the Joint Committee on State Sponsored Bodies on RTE (21 January 1981, 7pp).
- Letter from Sandra Darragh, Workshop Administrator, Anti-Sexism Workshop, Women’s Liberation Movement To Senator GH enclosing a copy of their report (copy attached, [March 1981], 23pp) on sexism in RTE. Remarks that a copy has also

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been sent to the Joint Committee on State Sponsored Bodies (10 March 1981, 1p).

- Copy of a news release issued by RTE announcing the completion of a report by the Working Party on Women in Broadcasting set up under the initiative of the then Chairman of the RTE Authority, Mrs Sheila Conroy. The terms of reference were to consider '(1) the representation of women in programmes ... (2) job opportunities in broadcasting and, (3) the portrayal of women in advertising.' Remarks that the RTE Authority have agreed in principle to implement the findings of the Working Party. Attached is a summary of the recommendations that appeared in the report (15 April 1981, 5pp).
- Copy of a letter from Senator GH to Tish Barry, Chairman of the Working Party on Women in Broadcasting congratulating her on the report describing it as 'impressive'. Remarks that she will fully support the recommendations in the report and encourage the implementation of the recommendations (4 May 1981, 1p).

2.6 Organisations and Advocacy Groups 1970s–80s

c1971–c1981

c600pp

Memberships

Series of files of newsletters, pamphlets, circular letters, correspondence, details of conferences and seminars, minutes of meetings relating to political organisations and advocacy groups of which GH was a member.

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9 October 1975–Spring 1980

74pp

Association for the Welfare of Children in Hospital

Includes:

- Publication of a study authored by Anne Cleary and Aileen O'Hare of the Medico-Social Research Board on behalf of the Association for the Welfare of Children in Hospital entitled 'A Study of Provisions made in Irish Hospitals for the Special Needs of Children' (1978, 39pp).
- Details of a seminar on children in hospital (19–20 October 1979, 1 item).
- Copy of newsletter entitled *Broadsheet* (Spring 1980, 21pp).

- P179/55** 15 May 1978–19 September 1980
- 8pp
- British Irish Association**
Includes:
- Letters from the Association inviting GH to attend their conferences (15 May 1978–9 May 1980, 3pp).
- P179/56** Spring 1978
- 41pp
- Children First**
Includes:
- Copy of a newsletter (Number 11) of the advocacy group for child welfare (Spring 1978, 25pp).
- P179/57** 10 March–15 October 1980
- 128pp
- Friedrich Naumann Stiftung**
Includes:
- Letter from Dr Gerhart Raichle, Friedrich Naumann Stiftung, a foundation for liberal politics, Bonn, Germany to GH informing her of a seminar to be held in Killarney, Co Kerry on the subject of budgetary strategy in the European Community (10 March 1980, 1p).
 - Further details, including the provisional programme, for the conference in Killarney (18 April 1980, 3pp).
- P179/58** 30 January 1980–26 January 1981
- 14pp
- The Irish Association for Cultural, Economic and Social Relations**
Includes:
- Letter from Trevor West to GH informing her of an IA meeting on the North entitled 'The Northern Problem—A Diagnosis' (30 January 1980, 1p).
 - Programme for the Autumn Conference of IA entitled 'Our Cultural Heritage and its Political and Social Influence on Life in Ireland' (19–21 September 1980, (3pp)).

P179/59 3 January 1979–21 July 1980

17pp

Irish Council for Civil Liberties

Includes:

- Circular letter inviting members to a meeting to consider legislation for divorce in Ireland. Includes a preliminary programme and a list of possible speakers ([13 March 1979], 3pp).
- Circular Letter appealing for donations to assist in the publication of a study entitled 'The Case for Divorce' by William Duncan, lecturer in law, Trinity College Dublin, on the introduction of divorce legislation in Ireland ([March 1979], 2pp).
- Copy of a press release welcoming the decision of the Court of Appeal in the Sallins mail train robbery case (30 May 1980, 1p).

P179/60 16 November 1978–14 October 1980

44pp

Irish Council of the European Movement

Includes:

- Paper by Eddie Moxon-Brown, MA entitled 'Relations between the Oireachtas and Irish Members of the European Parliament after Direct Elections' published by the ICEM (March 1979, 32pp).
- Newsletter 'European Opinion' of the ICEM (September 1979, 4pp).
- Draft programme of a seminar entitled 'Implications of EEC External Trade Policy to be held in the Grand Hotel Malahide, Co Dublin (12 October 1979, 1p).
- Letter from Gerry Manning, Director, ICEM, 27 Merrion Square, Dublin 2 to Senator GH thanking her for agreeing to chair a session during the forthcoming seminar entitled 'Educating for Europe' organised by the ICEM with the co-operation of the Northern Ireland European Movement (14 October 1980, 1p).
- Draft programme of the seminar 'Educating for Europe' ([14 October 1980], 2pp).

P179/61 25 October 1977–8 May 1980

41pp

Irish Parliamentary Association

Includes:

- Copy of the rules of the Irish Parliamentary Association ([25

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- October 1977, 2pp).
- Copy of biographical details of members of the Westminster delegation (19 March 1980, 4pp).
- Copy of a draft programme for a visit by a delegation from Westminster to Dublin. Includes a list of members of the delegation (23–26 March 1980, 2pp).

P179/62 14 February 1979–20 May 1980

64pp

Irish Arab Society

Includes:

- Letter from GH addressed 'To Noel and Myles'. Expresses some disquiet concerning a recent meeting of the Irish-Arab Association. Remarks that despite being a Vice-Chairman she has not received any communication from the Association. Refers to the '... very high political profile ...' of the recent meeting and '... anti-Jewish propaganda ...' Concludes 'I can assure you that I have no desire to be involved in anything which takes sides so unequivocally as did the meeting last week.' (16 February 1979, 1p).

P179/63 10 May 1977–December 1979

21pp

Mental Health Association

Includes:

- Copy of the minutes of the twelfth annual general meeting of the Mental Health Association held in the New Victoria Hotel, Cork (6 October 1979, 6pp).
- Copy of the Mental Health Association newsletter 'Interchange'. (November/December 1979, 6pp).

P179/64 June 1974–July 1977

c55pp

AIM (Action Information Motivation)

Includes:

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- AIM Group newsletter (No. 7) updating members on the work of the organisation describing itself as '... a pressure group to fight for a better deal for Irish women (June 1974, 8pp).
- Draft and copy of an address by Senator GH to the AIM Group AGM. Annotated (3 December [1974], 6pp).
- Letter from Deirdre McDevitt, Honorary Secretary, AIM Group to GH, Chairman, Women's Political Association, 43 St Kevin's

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contd

Park Dartry, Dublin 6 fully supporting the stand that the WPA has taken on the newly formed Women's Representative Committee. Outlines the concerns of the AIM Group (4 December 1974, 2pp).

P179/65 1975–Spring 1979

c40pp

Irish Federation of University Women

Includes:

- Explanatory leaflet concerning the establishment of the Irish Federation of University Women (1975, 2pp)
- Programme of a Triennial Conference of the International Federation of University Women held in Dublin (11–24 April 1977, 4pp).
- Newsletter (No. 11) of the Irish Federation of University Women (Spring 1977, 8pp).
- Newsletter (No. 13) of Irish Federation of University Women (Spring 1979, 15pp).

P179/66 5 April 1977–1 January 1979

6pp

UCD Women Graduates' Association

Includes:

- Notifications of meetings of the association including speaker, venue and time (7 April 1977–1 January 1979, 3pp).

P179/67 January 1972–17 February 1978

55pp

Dissociated Material

File of newsletters, information leaflets, correspondence, newsletters relating to various groups of which GH was a member or in which she showed an interest in their activities. Most of the groups represented campaigned on behalf of marginalised sections of society and/or issues relating to societal problems.

Includes:

- Newsletter circulated by ADAPT, Association for Deserted and Alone Parents (Not dated, 3pp).
- Notification of the first AGM of CARE, Campaign for the Care of Deprived Children (January 1972, 1p).
- Copy of the constitution, rules, standing orders of the Irish Family Planning Rights Association (16 March 1971–[] 1972, 6pp).

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contd

- Information leaflet and newsletter of the Dyslexia Association of Ireland (September 1973–January 1974, 6pp).
- Summary of events held, letter, agenda of a meeting, minutes of the organising committee of the Retirement Planning Council of Ireland (31 October–27 November 1974, 9pp).
- Membership card, notice, agenda, list of members of Peace Point (24 April–15 May 1975, 7pp).
- Circular letter sent by CAP, Contraception Action Programme outlining the demands of their campaign, who supports their aims and a summary of their activities. Appeals for support. A note in GH's handwriting states that she asked for her name to be added to the list of supporters ([15 March 1978], 1p).
- Letter, programme, press release, report of the Executive Committee of the St Nicholas Montessori Society of Ireland (31 March–17 June 1978, 10pp).
- Information booklet, circular letter, correspondence relating to Irish Women's Aid (15 October 1977–2 August 1978, 11pp).
- Letter from Meriel Gordon, Development Officer, Irish Epilepsy Association, 23 Dawson Street, Dublin 2 to GH inviting her to take part in fundraising activity for the Association (17 February 1978, 1p).

2.7 Publications [1975–76]

[1975–76]

5 issues (87pp)

Journal of Irish Women United—*Banshee*

P179/68–72

A series of the publication *Banshee*, the journal of Irish Women United. Irish Women United was formed in April 1975 to fight for Irish women's rights and engage in issues directly affecting the lives of women in Ireland.

P179/68

[1975]

15pp

Banshee, vol 1, no 2.

P179/69

[1975]

16pp

Banshee, vol 1, no 4.

P179/70

[1976]

16pp

Banshee, no 5.

P179/71 [1976]
16pp
Banshee, no 8.

P179/72 [March 1976]
2 copies, 24pp
Banshee.

2.8 Dissociated Material 1975–78

P179/73 June 1975–December 1978; June 2000
100pp

Gender Equality

File of dissociated material including newsletters, notes, correspondence, circular letter, report relating to women's groups and organisations, gender equality.

Includes:

- Copy of *Bread + Roses*, issue number 6, a publication produced by the UCD Women's Liberation Group ([1977], 22pp).
- Catalogue and correspondence concerning an exhibition of documents and ephemera relating to the Irish Women's Suffrage Movement. The exhibition took place in Trinity College New Library. Includes letters from Andree Sheehy Skeffington (widow of Owen Sheehy Skeffington), Hazelbrook Cottage, 69 Terenure Road West, Dublin 6 to GH thanking her for helping with publicity for the exhibition and the media interest that has been building. Remarks that she has had some success in attracting people to help with research as well as donations of material for the exhibition (16 & 23 June 1975, 4pp).
- Copy of a submission by Irishwomen United to the Law Reform Commission on the Law of Domicile (18 March 1976, 4pp).
- Annual newsletter of Bray Women's Group (1978, 16pp).
- Circular letter from the Steering Collective for a Women's Centre, c/o 99 Tritonville Road, Sandymount, Dublin 4 informing their [membership] of a meeting during which it was agreed that adequate finance needed to be raised, the identification of suitable premises and publicity. Refers to a report of the meeting that will be circulated and provides details of the next meeting of the group. Expresses the desire to have a clear objective and a plan of action for the establishment of the first all-Ireland Women's Centre (September 1978, 1p).
- Notes in GH's handwriting relating to a BBC documentary

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programme 'Man Alive' on the subject of women in management (19 December 1978, 2pp).

- Copy of the tenth anniversary report of the European Women's Foundation entitled 'Building the New European Democracies'. GH acted as Director of the Foundation (June 2000, 18pp).

3 POLITICAL CAREER

3.1 Seanad Éireann, First Term

3.1.1 Campaign and Election 1977

P179/74 4 February–11 April 1977

20pp

Announcement

Copies of press releases, copies of correspondence, publicity article concerning GH's decision to stand for election to Seanad Éireann as an Independent candidate on the NUI panel.

Includes:

- Copy of a press release announcing GH's candidature for the Senate. Includes biographical details, details of her contribution to public life (4 February 1977, 1p).
- Copy of a letter to Christina Murphy, *Irish Times*, D'Olier Street, Dublin 2 from GH, 43 St Kevin's Park, Dartry, Dublin 6 concerning the press release and asking her to use it if possible. Refers to the NUI panel and the difficulty she is facing in making contact with the electorate, in particular women voters. Remarks 'I will be pursuing an extremely active and widespread campaign ...' (4 February 1977, 1p).
- Copy of an article by GH entitled 'Seanad Éireann Elections' published in *Housewives*, the official publication of the Irish Housewives Association ([April 1977], 2pp).

P179/75 29 June–July 1977

26pp

Publicity

Lists of nominators, publicity and campaign literature and flyers, copies of correspondence relating to GH's bid for a seat on the NUI panel, Seanad Éireann.

Includes:

- Copy of a letter from GH to Mrs Roisin MacDougald, 94 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin 2 enclosing a copy of an article for publication in the Mount Anville *Annals* concerning her campaign to win a seat in Seanad Éireann. Remarks that she was pleased to meet Mrs MacDougald at the recent past pupils reunion ([February] 1977, 2pp).

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- Copy of a letter to Christina [Murphy], [*Irish Times*] concerning her campaign. Refers to her endorsement from Garret FitzGerald, her principal nominator. Emphasises that Garret FitzGerald's support is given with the 'clear understanding' that she is running as an independent and will remain independent if she is successful. Refers to the possibility of another candidate with the same surname as her (Caroline Hussey) running in the Seanad elections. Remarks that she regards this as '...political opportunism on the part of the Labour party ... I rely on the likes of you to show that bit of sleight of hand up for what it is! I hope the graduates of the NUI among whom I have been labouring for so long will not be confused by the 12th hour arrival of another woman called Hussey. (You expect to meet all sorts of peculiar tricks in politics, but this takes the biscuit...)' (28 June 1977, 1p).

January–November 1977

450pp

Seanad Éireann—Campaign Correspondence

**P179/76–
80**

Series of files of correspondence arranged in alphabetical order according to the surname of the correspondent, concerning Gemma Hussey's campaign for Seanad Éireann and a seat on the National University of Ireland Panel.

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4 February–2 August 1977

52pp

Campaign Correspondence A-C

Includes:

- Letters from Carrie Acheson, Western Lodge, Co. Tipperary pledging her support for GH's bid for the Senate. Refers to her own political aspirations and discusses the difficulty in getting a nomination for seats traditionally held by generations of the same family. Asks GH to send her the contact details of graduates in the Tipperary region so that she can contact them individually and seek their support for GH. Refers to her sister Tras Honan who is seeking a nomination on the Administrative Panel and remarks that she will campaign for GH when she is 'on the road'. Refers to her own lack of success in seeking a nomination to contest the general election 'Through you may I say a sincere thank you to the wonderful women of the WPA (Women's Political Association) that gave me courage—they gave me hope and for them I will continue the fight—we are going someplace (don't ask me where) but women are on the move'. Refers to the NUI results during the last election and provides a breakdown of the electorate, the TVP (Total Valid Poll) and the quota. Remarks that GH will 'have a fight on your hands.' (8 February–11 July 1977, 9pp).
- Letter from Garrett Barden, Department of Philosophy,

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University College, Cork to GH concerning the possibility of gaining support from UCC graduates for her campaign. Refers to Professor Patrick Quinlan remarking that he cannot 'fathom' his success, in particular his success within the university. Remarks 'I suppose we all tend to absolutize our own views and fail to grasp why they are not universally shared. How can we wean Cork voters off Quinlan? How can we wean voters off Martin' (Augustine Martin) (20 April 1977, 1p).

- Copy of a reply from GH commenting on Barden's letter and agreeing with him regarding the success of Augustine Martin in Senate elections. Refers to another candidate, a woman describing her as a 'very weak candidate ... she poses no real threat.' Continues 'My main worry is that a certain liberal religious lady may stand—it's amazing what an effect liberal statements from the clergy have on people—the combination of the cloth and liberalism is attractive, apparently ... I refer, of course, to Sister Benvenuta (Margaret MacCurtain), who topped the poll for the UCD Governing Body elections, beating even Garrett FitzGerald, which takes some doing—particularly as she didn't even canvass.' (21 April 1977, 1p).
- Letter from Mary Barry, Women's Political Association, Thurles Branch, Westgate, Thurles, Co Tipperary to GH pledging her support for GH's campaign. Explains why she is not seeking a nomination in Thurles. Refers to her role as an elected representative on the local council, preferring to continue her work at community level and the compromises she has to make so that she does not lose credibility amongst her conservative supporters (25 April 1977, 2pp).
- Copy of a letter from Gemma Hussey to Katherine Bulbulia, Lachpur, Grantstown, Waterford concerning her campaign and acknowledging the support she is receiving including the positive publicity surrounding the female candidates seeking election. Thanks Katherine Bulbulia for her support (15 June 1977, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from Gemma Hussey, 43 St Kevin's Park, Dartry, Dublin 6 to Pat Clune, Honorary Secretary, Cork Branch, Irish Federation of University Women, 4 Limetrees Road, Douglas, Cork expressing disappointment that she will not be able to address one of the meetings. Remarks that she is very eager to secure a seat on the University Panel to advance representation of women in Irish politics (11 February 1977, 1p).
- Reply explaining that the programme for meetings has been finalised for the year but that GH is welcome to address members when she visits Cork (17 February 1977, 1p).

P179/77 23 January–2 August 1977

105pp

Campaign Correspondence D–F

Includes:

- Letter from Austin Deasy TD, Durrow, Stradbally, Co Waterford to Peter [Prendergast] pledging his support for GH's campaign for the Senate. Remarks that he is looking forward to meeting him to discuss the fallout from the recent General Election (17 July 1977, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from Gemma Hussey to Mary Dooley, 'Genazzano', Ardfallen Estate, Douglas, Cork asking her to canvass in Cork. Refers to the task in hand and the work she will need to put in explaining that she does not have a 'bloc' vote behind her. Remarks that a personal approach to graduates on the register eligible to vote would be of enormous help (3 June 1977, 1p).
- Letter from Margaret Downes, 16 Lansdowne Road, Dublin 4 to Gemma Hussey, 43 St Kevin's Park, Dublin 6 pledging her support for her campaign to win a seat in the Seanad (7 February 1977, 1p).
- Further letter from Margaret Downes agreeing to distribute leaflets on behalf of GH at the forthcoming IMI conference (21 July 1977, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH to Avril Doyle, Rocklands, Wexford thanking her for a list of graduates. Refers to the recent general election describing it as a 'debacle'. Remarks 'But at least out of great evil some good has come, and I feel sure that Garret will revitalize the party'. Refers to her campaign for the Senate remarking that she has a 'good chance' (11 July 1977, 1p).
- Letter from Thomas W Enright TD, Market Square, Birr, Co Offaly to Peter Prendergast pledging support for GH's senate campaign. Mentions that Gus Martin is a strong candidate but that he will recommend GH to 'uncommitted voters' (20 July 1977, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH to Sr Breda Eustace, Cross and Passion Convent, Glandore Road, Dublin 9 asking for her help in distributing information for her Senate campaign. Refers to her belief that there is a need for women to have a stronger participation in public life and that her work over the last five years in this area has inspired her to stand for public office (2 June 1977, 1p).
- Letters from Jane Farmer, The Cottage, Coolreiny, Castleconnell, Co. Limerick to GH concerning the Limerick's Women's Action Group, consisting of socialist women with an interest in a wide range of issues affecting women's lives. Remarks that the group are not prepared to publicly state their support for GH's candidacy but that they would welcome information about her policies for consideration at one of their meetings (23 January & 9 March 1977, 4pp).
- Copy of a letter from GH to Anne Fitzgerald, Chairwoman of FLAC (Free Legal Aid Centres) seeking support and assistance for her Senate campaign. Refers to her support for the work of FLAC ([May] 1977, 1p).
- Letter from Mary Finlay, McCann Fitzgerald Roche & Dudley Solicitors to GH agreeing to promote GH's candidature for the Senate at the next committee meeting of the Society of Young Solicitors (11 May 1977, 1p).

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- Letter from Oliver J Flanagan TD to Peter Prendergast, 50 Westbrook Road, Dublin 14 remarking that he will support GH's campaign and has contacted a number of people eligible to vote. Refers to the General Election remarking that it was 'All like a dream.' (14 July 1977, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH to Freda and Jim Flavin, 12 Ardmore, Taylor's Hill, Galway discussing her Senate campaign and seeking their support and assistance. Discusses her chances of winning a seat but remarks that she does not want to take anything for granted. Refers to the uncertainty of the date of the general election and, depending on timing, how this will affect her campaign strategy. Emphasises that she is standing as an independent and her commitment to remaining independent '... unlike John Horgan and Mary Robinson.' (1 April 1977, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH to Maribel Foley, 59 Newpark, Foxrock, Co. Dublin asking for her support for her Senate campaign. Remarks that her political beliefs are liberal and mentions that among those who will be nominating her are Garret FitzGerald, Fr Billy FitzGerald (Head of Religious Affairs, RTE) and Helen Bourke of the Law Reform Commission (14 April 1977, 1p).
- Letter from Mary Forde, 49 Willow Park Avenue, Ballymun, Dublin 11 to GH discussing her campaign and the work she has carried out on GH's behalf. Agrees to write a letter to the press in support of GH and asks for guidance on the content. Makes the point that GH could '...run the risk of the League of Decency ... writing in saying you were in favour of free contraceptives, abortion etc ... they can paint rather a grim picture and indeed their leaflet campaign in Mary Robinson's and Conor Cruise O'Brien's constituencies certainly did not help either candidate.' (1 July 1977, 1p).

P179/78 12 January–13 August 1977

74pp

Campaign Correspondence G–K

Includes:

- Letter from Win Harrington, Clontarf Place, off O'Connell Avenue, Limerick to GH discussing the recent general election and her lack of success in winning a Dáil seat. Discusses the reasons behind her lack of success and that she has analysed where she gained votes in the constituency. Refers to GH's election campaign for the Senate and predicts that she will have to fight for her seat as many defeated TDs will now be looking for a senate seat (27 June 1977, 3pp).
- Letter from Neville Keery, 9 Seafield Avenue, Monkstown, Co. Dublin to GH wishing her success in the Seanad elections. Remarks that he will be away during the count. Offers advice which he himself received from Owen Sheehy Skeffington if she is successful regarding speaking in the Senate and how best to

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conduct herself during debates in the chamber. Refers to her independent status and the difficulty she may face in remaining a member of Fine Gael and being regarded as an independent. Outlines some scenarios which may arise if a change of government occurs. Remarks that the role of an independent is to offer new ideas and reminds her that people vote for an independent because they want objectivity. Refers to the Standing Orders of the Senate and the importance of understanding what they mean in practise so that she can become knowledgeable about the working of the chamber. Refers to the assistance available from the Cathaoirleach, the Clerk and his assistants, the ushers, the general office and the library. Advises her to identify the Committees she would like to serve on and to start lobbying as soon as possible (13 August 1977, 4pp).

P179/79 8 February–5 November 1977

167pp

Campaign Correspondence L–O

Includes:

- Copy of a letter from GH to Joan Lahiff, 10 Aidan Park, Shannon, Co Clare concerning the distribution of her campaign literature in the Clare/Limerick area. Refers to the publicity arising from the Women's Political Association (WPA) questionnaire and the impact of the WPA campaign 'Why Not a Woman' (4 June 1977, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH to Elizabeth Lovatt Dolan, 1 Louvain, Ardilea, Dublin seeking support for her Senate campaign. Provides background to her decision to enter politics arising from a commitment by the WPA (Women's Political Association) committee that officers of the Association should join political parties '... in order to give practical encouragement to women to do likewise.' Refers to her decision, at the time, to join the Dublin SE constituency of Fine Gael but that she has not taken an active part in the Fine Gael party. Emphasises that she is standing as an Independent candidate for the Senate and that she will remain unaffiliated if elected to the Senate (10 May 1977, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH to Deirdre McQuillan, Press and Publicity Officer, Abbey Theatre, Dublin 1 referring to the approaching deadline for names to be added to the NUI register of graduates. Remarks that the register is 'badly kept' and that she is spending 'every waking moment' checking it and that it only represents approximately 50% of graduates eligible to vote in the Senate elections (18 February 1977, 1p).

P179/80 1 April–12 August 1977

52pp

Campaign Correspondence P–Y

Includes:

- Copy of a circular letter from Mary Raftery, Education Officer, UCD Student's Union to the candidates standing for election to the NUI panel. Poses a number of questions relating to matters of concern to the student body (22 July 1977, 2pp).
- Copy of a reply from GH responding to the questions posed in the circular letter (27 July 1977, 1p).
- Letter from Mary Reeves, Secretary, Limerick Federation of Women's Organisations, 6 Ashbrook, Ennis Road, Limerick extending an invitation to GH to address a meeting of their membership (4 March 1977, 1p).
- Letter from Brid Rogers, Bunbeg, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal to GH wishing her success in the Senate campaign. Remarks that she and her husband have been left off the NUI register and cannot vote. Remarks that she has been engaged in an 'extensive canvass' on behalf of John Kelly and that she has asked everyone to give GH their second preference (22 July 1977, 2pp).
- Copy of a letter from GH to Catherine Rose, 35 Crescent View, Riverside Estate, Galway concerning a possible visit to Galway to canvass for votes. Discusses the difficulty in making contact with graduates of the NUI eligible to vote. Asks for her assistance (27 April 1977, 1p).
- Letter from Minna Ryan, University College Dublin Women's Graduate Association to GH concerning GH's request for a list of members of the association and regretting that the list cannot be made available to her (2 June 1977, 2pp).
- Copy of a letter from GH to Marianne Staunton, Rosbeg, Westport, Co Mayo appealing for her support in gaining the votes of the Mayo graduates. Refers to the 'disastrous' results of the General Election and commiserating with her over her husband's failure to secure a Dáil seat in Mayo West. Remarks '... I'm sure Myles ... and yourself feel that out of evil some good has come with Garrett's leadership victory.' (2 July 1977, 1p).

P179/81 19 August 1977

1p

Election to Seanad Éireann

Copy of a newspaper cutting of an article published in the *Irish Times* entitled 'First "feminist" in the Oireachtas' by Christina Murphy concerning GH's success in winning a seat on the NUI panel in the Seanad Éireann elections.

3.1.2 Policy and Legislation 19[76]; 1977–81

P179/82 1976–December 1977

57pp

Bills before Seanad Éireann

Mostly copies of speeches, amendments, copies of memoranda.

Includes:

- Copy of a second stage speech, National Board for Science and Technology Bill, 1976 (1976, 10pp).
- Copy of a second stage speech, Landlord and Tenant (Ground Rents) Bill, 1977 (1977, 9pp).
- Second stage speech, Nitrogen Eireann Teoranta Bill, 1977. NET was established for the acquisition, erection and operation of a nitrogen fertilizer industry in Ireland (1977, 7pp).
- Copy of amendments to the Stock Exchange (Completion of Bargains) Bill, 1977, committee stage (18 November 1977, 2pp).
- Copy of an explanatory memorandum on the Draft Registration of Electors (Amendment) Regulations, 1977 (December 1977, 3pp).
- Second reading of the Industrial Development Bill, 1977 (1977, 6pp).
- Copy of a speech for the second stage of the Industrial Credit (Amendment) Bill, 1977 (1977, 4pp).

P179/83 17 December 1977–19 July 1978

43pp

Northern Ireland

Letters, copies of newspaper cuttings concerning a letter sent by GH to the *Irish Press* reacting to a review by Tom McGuirk of a book on the SDLP entitled 'The Northern Ireland Social Democratic and Labour Party' by Ian McAllister.

Includes:

- Copy of a cutting from the *Irish Press* of Tom McGuirk's review of the book on the history of the SDLP (17 December 1977, 2pp).
- Copy of a letter sent by GH to the Editor *Sunday Independent* expressing her opinion about the killing of RUC officers, British soldiers or members of the UDR remarking 'It is no more horrible for the IRA to kill children in our name than it is for them to kill RUC men, British soldiers or UDR men. They have no mandate from anyone to take the lives of these men who are doing their work ... I sometimes feel we can lull ourselves into thinking that it's not so bad, that they are less "innocent" than a child or a grandmother.' (11 February 1978, 1p).
- Letter from Paddy O'Donnell, 10 Villa Park Avenue, Dublin 7 to GH praising her for her letter [published in the *Sunday*

Independent] about the violence in Northern Ireland (12 February 1978, 1p).

- Strongly worded letter from Mrs Kay Dwyer, c/o 242 Antrim Road, Belfast 15 to GH taking great issue with a letter GH wrote to the *Irish Press* (13 February 1978) concerning the violence in Northern Ireland and the situation for Irish Catholics living in Northern Ireland. Remarks ‘... if you consider that Unionism is good enough for us, just because we are boxed in with a recalcitrant and unassimilable foreign colony, then we say that Unionism is also good enough for you. So follow the logic of your own attitudes—come back into the Union!’ Concludes ‘So, kindly do not, from behind your barricade, lecture the Irish people of the North about “keeping the peace”. We have no duty to uphold British peace, or British law (both imposed on us by violence) and why should we be bound while you go free?’ (15 February 1978, 4pp).
- Letter from Máire Ferguson, Navan Road, Ceanannas Mór, Co. Meath to GH asking her why she does not condemn all murders in the North of Ireland. Refers to her ‘selective’ opinion (15 February 1978, 3pp).
- Copy of a newspaper cutting (publication not identified) concerning a Seanad motion in the names of Trevor West, Augustin Martin and GH concerning the situation in Northern Ireland and the steps the government intends to take towards establishing a political solution (16 March 1978, 1p).
- Further letters from GH, Robin Glendinning and Thomas P McManus to the national press concerning peace and unity and Northern Ireland (23 March–5 April 1978, 2pp).
- Letter from Una Higgins O’Malley, Dunamase, Cross Avenue, Booterstown, Co Dublin to GH enclosing a draft of a document (enclosed) entitled ‘Draft statement which might be subscribed to by unaligned politicians’ she and Brigid Wilkinson wish to discuss with Trevor West. The document makes reference to the people of Northern Ireland determining their own future ‘... free from pressures from either Dublin or London.’ Outlines what form this could take. Remarks that she is also meeting with Dr K Whitaker. Invites comments (20 May 1978, 1p).
- Copy of an article by Una Higgins O’Malley published in the *Irish Press* entitled ‘Forget unity until the violence ceases’. Presents her opinion on the ‘...national aspiration for a united Ireland.’ (20 March 1978, 1p).
- Copy of a cutting from a newspaper (not identified) concerning the annoyance amongst Senators who were prevented from debating the situation in Northern Ireland due to it being moved down the order of business as a result of an extended debate on the White Paper on National Development. Remarks that the former Labour Party spokesman on Northern Ireland Conor Cruise O’Brien had travelled from London to take part in the debate but left without having the opportunity to speak (2 June 1978, 1p).¹
- Copy of a contribution made by Una Higgins O’Malley at a meeting of the Irish Civil Rights Association concerning the protests in H Block in the Maze prison and Long Kesh (19 July 1978, 2pp).

P179/84 16 November 1978–8 July 1980

52pp

Wood Quay

File containing copies of correspondence, correspondence, copy of a petition, copy of a press release, copies of statements concerning the Viking site at Wood Quay in Dublin. Includes:

- Copy of a list of members of Dublin City Council indicating those for and against the preservation of Wood Quay (15 September 1978, 2pp).
- Letter from FX Martin, Department of Medieval History, University College Dublin to GH referring to her intention to raise the issue of Wood Quay in the Senate. Encloses copies of letters from AR Dufty, President of the Society of Antiquaries of London and John D Evans of the Institute of Archaeology, University of London, as well as a press release issued by the Friends of Medieval Dublin. Remarks that he has permission from both to cite, if necessary, from their letters. Suggests a number of questions GH could direct to Pearse Wyse, Minister for State for Finance (29 November 1978, 2pp).
- Copy of a letter from AR Dufty, President of the Society of Antiquaries of London, Burlington House, Picadilly, London to Professor Martin, Chairman of the Friends of Medieval Dublin, Department of Medieval History University College, Dublin pledging their strong support for the campaign to carry out a full archaeological excavation of the Wood Quay site and the prevention of its destruction. Annotated (16 November 1978, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from John D Evans, University of London, Institute of Archaeology, 31–34 Gordon Square, London to Professor Martin concerning the future of the Wood Quay site. Discusses the nature and conditions of the site. Suggests, given the importance of the site, that it may be possible to raise funds to conserve the finds in situ or have them moved elsewhere. Expresses the hope that the Irish government will support this endeavour (17 November 1978, 2pp).
- Copy of a press release by the Friends of Medieval Dublin concerning the one year anniversary of the High Court injunction that halted construction work at the Wood Quay site. Refers to the precarious situation facing the site and the formation of a 'Dublin Watch Committee' to monitor the situation. Provides a list of groups that support the efforts to preserve Wood Quay (28 November 1978, 6pp).
- Booklet written by FX Martin and published by *The Belvederian* entitled 'The Wood Quay Saga part 1 November 1977–January 1979 Bulldozers and a National Monument' (1979, 18pp).
- Copy of an address by GH on Wood Quay (22 June 1979, 1p).
- Copy of a signed statement by Senator Mary Robinson concerning archaeological objects found during a mechanical excavation of the site at Wood Quay that took place without supervision by the National Museum of Ireland (25 June 1979, 2pp).

P179/85 19 October 1978–21 January [1981]

76pp

Children's Rights and Illegitimacy

Notes, copies of press releases, copies of submissions, memorandum, correspondence concerning the Young Fine Gael campaign to abolish the legal status of illegitimacy.

Includes:

- Copy of a circular letter from Mary Liddy, Chairman, CHERISH, 2 Lower Pembroke Street, Dublin 2 enclosing a discussion document (dated 19 October 1978, 7pp) on illegitimacy (9 February 1979, 1p).
- Copy of an explanatory memorandum on the Young Fine Gael Status of Children Bill ([1980], 4pp).
- Copy of the proposed Bill ([1980], 17pp).
- Copy of a press release of an address presented by Councillor Mary D Flaherty, Chairperson of the Young Fine Gael campaign committee to abolish the legal status of illegitimacy speaking at the Fine Gael Árd Fheis (30 March 1980, 2pp).
- Copy of a background document explaining Young Fine Gael's involvement in this issue (March 1980, 12pp).
- Copy of a speech by GH, Fine Gael Party spokesperson on women's issues given at a public meeting in University College Cork on illegitimacy (21 January 1981, 2pp).

P179/86 7–28 October 1981

49pp

Abolition of the Death Penalty (Criminal Justice Bill, 1981)

Notes, resolution, memoranda, copy of a speech, correspondence relating to the Criminal Justice Bill, 1981.

Includes:

- Copy of a second stage speech by the Minister for Justice Jim Mitchell concerning the Criminal Justice Bill, 1981 delivered to Seanad Éireann (1981, 8pp)
- Copy of the explanatory memorandum of the Criminal Justice Bill, 1981. Annotated (October 1981, 2pp).
- Copy of the criminal Justice Bill, 1981 presented by Senator Gemma Hussey. Annotated (7 October 1981, 10pp).
- Letter from Derek Nally, General Secretary, Association of Garda Sergeants and Inspectors, 6th Floor, Phibsborough Tower, Dublin 7 to GH, 29 Temple Road, Dublin 6 expressing the concern of the organisation about the Criminal Justice legislation. Remarks that following consultation with their members, an overwhelming number supported the retention of Capital Punishment. Outlines the reason why the organisation 'strongly oppose' the legislation. Remarks 'We are the people who must daily risk our lives in the normal course of our employment to protect and defend the rest of society. We have always been aware of the risks and are willing to accept them,

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but we undertook to do the job on the basis that society recognised our claim to whatever additional protection the law could give us. The Criminal Justice Act 1964 gave us that. We feel that the proposal to remove Capital Punishment does not provide an equally strong protection.’ (16 October 1981, 2pp).

- Copy of a reply acknowledging the concerns raised by the Association of Garda Sergeants and Inspectors. Remarks that the situation has now arisen where society is not prepared to use the death sentence and that it is necessary to introduce a mandatory 40 year sentence. Adds that she is also supportive of improved equipment, training and conditions for Gardaí remarking ‘I sincerely believe that this is the way to protect the force rather than a defunct death sentence.’ (28 October 1981, 1p).

P179/87 1 November 1977; 23 February–16 November 1978

66pp

Tax Reform

Notes, correspondence, copies of newspaper cuttings concerning tax reform, in relation to married persons, women and widows.

Includes:

- Notes prepared by Yvonne [] in preparation for GH’s radio debate with George Colley Minister for Finance. Outlines the tactics GH should adopt and provides her with figures and statistics that highlight the discrimination affecting married couples and their tax liabilities. Annotated ([February 1978], 6pp).
- Copy of a letter from Anne Kavanagh, Chairwoman, Council for the Status of Women, 27 Merrion Square, Dublin 2 to George Colley, Tanaiste and Minister for Finance, Department of Finance, Dublin 2 concerning married women’s taxation. Refers to the continuing discrimination experienced by married couples and their tax liabilities and section 192 of the Income Tax Act 1967 which effectively categorises a married woman’s income as her husband’s for tax purposes. Appeals to the Minister to repeal section 192 (8 June 1978, 3pp).

P179/88 23 March 1979–2 June 1981

174pp

Criminal Law (Rape) Bill 1980

Notes, copies of speeches, correspondence, copies of press releases, notes for speeches, copies of newspaper cuttings concerning a Bill introduced by GH concerning sexual offences and certain provisions in the bill to address pre-trial procedures if a rape has occurred and the question of marital rape.

Includes:

- Copy of a lengthy submission by the Council for the Status of Women on rape in Ireland. Includes a summary of recommendations (18 October 1978, 23pp).
- Copy of a response by Jim O’Keeffe TD, Fine Gael spokesman on law reform and human rights to the submission on rape by the Council for the Status of Women ([18 October 1978], 13pp).
- Copy of a lengthy letter from Gerard Collins TD, Minister for Justice to Dr Hazel Boland, Council for the Status of Women, 27 Merrion Square, Dublin 2 concerning the Council’s submission on rape. Remarks that he has marked the letter ‘confidential’ but that he is happy for the contents to be shown to her colleagues on the Council ‘What I have in mind is that it is not intended for general circulation or for publication in the newspapers etc. On that basis, I can comment more freely than would otherwise be the case because this is a subject on which it is particularly easy to be misunderstood.’ Outlines his position as Minister and the approach he has taken. Proceeds to go through the Council’s submission clarifying his position on a number of points. Concludes ‘I hope I have said enough to indicate why careful study is needed and why it was impossible for me to accept the recommendations without further detailed analysis and research. I also hope that you are right in believing that an indication of some of the items which I consider to be either incorrect or to provide an inadequate basis for legislation will not in fact be in any way hurtful to any of the people concerned in the making of the report.’ (30 March 1979, 7pp).
- Letter from Anne O’Donnell, Secretary, Dublin Rape Crisis Centre, Dublin 6 to GH congratulating her on her speech in the Senate and expresses her admiration for GH’s ‘bravery’ in referring to sensitive areas concerning the broader definition of rape. Asks GH to keep the Rape Crisis Group up to date with any developments and expresses an interest in getting involved in a committee if the opportunity arises (17 May 1979, 1p).
- Copy of a second stage speech in Seanad Éireann on the Criminal Law (Rape) Bill. Annotated (1980, 17pp).
- Copy of the ‘Arrangement of Sections’ document of the Sexual Offences Bill 1980. Annotated (1980, 4pp).
- Copy of the ‘Explanatory Memorandum’ Criminal Law (Rape) Bill, 1980. Annotated (1980, 6pp).
- Copy of a statement for a press conference concerning GH’s proposed Sexual Offences Bill 1980. Outlines the background to the Bill (1980, 1p).
- Copy of talking points for a speech by GH on the Sexual Offences Bill 1980 (10 June 1980, 1p).
- Copy of a statement made by GH at a press conference summarising the main sections of her proposed Sexual Offences Bill 1980. Annotated (10 June 1980, 2pp).
- Copies of newspaper cuttings from the *Evening Herald*, the *Irish Press* and the *Sunday Press*, *Irish Independent*, *Hibernia*, *Sunday World*, *Irish Times*, *Southside Express* reporting on GH’s proposed Sexual Offences Bill (10–18 June 1980, 21pp).
- Letter from Fianna Fáil Senator Eileen Cassidy to GH informing her that she has issues with almost every section of

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the Bill and will oppose GH's motion for a Second Reading. Encloses a copy of her notes detailing the difficulties she has with the sections of the Bill (16 June 1980, 5pp).

- Note from Katherine Bulbulia, Lachpur, Grantstown, Co Waterford congratulating GH on her Bill. Remarks 'It must have been galling to have discussion and debate omitted from the Order Paper ... but you certainly got things moving!' (24 June 1980, 2pp).
- Copy of a letter from GH to Dr Hazel Boland, The Council for the Status of Women, 27 Merrion Square expressing her appreciation to the Council for the help they gave her. Remarks that she was very pleased about the press conference. Continues 'I very much hope that between all of us we may finally get some legislation onto the Statute Books before too long.' (27 June 1980, 1p).
- Copy of comments by the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre on the Criminal Law (Rape) Bill 1980. Examines the Bill section by section providing a critique and expressing the view that the Bill '...omits vital reforms ... (and) fails as a piece of legislation to adequately protect victims of rape from highly stressful and unpleasant investigation and court hearing.' Annotated (20 October 1980, 4pp).
- Another copy of the comments by the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre on the Criminal Law (Rape) Bill 1980 this time supplied by Mary Robinson to GH. A note on the document, written by Mary Robinson remarks that she met a group of women protesting outside the Houses of the Oireachtas and took a copy of the literature they had (20 October 1980, 4pp).
- Copy of a speech by GH at a 'Rape' meeting in Liberty Hall talking about the Rape Bill. Annotated (25 November 1980, 3pp).
- Copy of a press release entitled 'Women in distress come last in the priorities of Ireland's concerns' issued by the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre on the occasion of the launch of their second report containing information on their work, aims and plans for future development (22 June 1981, 4pp).

3.1.3 Correspondence 1977-80

P179/89 6 July-29 December 1977

115pp

General Correspondence 1977

File of correspondence concerning GH's election to Seanad Éireann including letters of congratulations, letters relating to policy areas, special interest topics and people who wrote to her as a public representative with a particular interest in women's and family affairs and invitations to address groups on a range of topics.

Includes:

- Letter from Paul Murray, Information Section, Department of

Foreign Affairs confirming a request by the DFA asking GH to update the fact sheet on the Status of Women, published as part of the DFA 'Fact Sheet' series (6 July 1977, 1p).

- Letter from Brenda Weir, Rockwood, Ballyboden, Dublin 14 to GH concerning the question of taxation on married couples. Remarks that she is passionately interested in the subject and has a file of correspondence relating to the matter including one letter from Richie Ryan (Minister for Finance 1973–77) which she describes as 'incredible'. Encloses a copy of a letter she wrote to the *Irish Times* and urges GH to raise the matter in the Senate (13 September 1977, 3pp).
- Letter from Marie Therese Larcher, Union of Christian-Democratic Women, Switzerland to GH expressing her delight in GH's interest in joining their organisation. Outlines the aims of the organisation and the membership body (14 September 1977, 2pp).
- Copy of a reply explaining that she is an independent Senator although formerly a member of the Fine Gael party. Remarks that as an Independent she will be able to speak more freely about women's rights and issues (29 September 1977 1p).
- Letter from Mary Wilson, International Federation of University Women (Cork Branch) expressing their frustration concerning the report that the former President Cearbhall Ó Dálaigh is to be supplied with a car by the state in order for him to fulfil engagements in Dublin. Asks GH to raise the matter in the Senate. A note in GH's writing on the letter states that a reply was sent in the negative remarking 'wouldn't like to stir it up' (10 October 1977, 2pp).
- Copy of a letter from GH to Paul Murray, Information Department, Department of Foreign Affairs concerning the draft of a fact sheet on the Status of Women in Ireland. Remarks that family planning, in particular contraception, would need to be included in any document that relates to the status of women in Ireland. Suggests a form of words to be included (10 October 1977, 1p).
- Letter from David Norris to GH asking her to support the campaign for homosexual law reform. Encloses an explanatory leaflet and other publicity material (25–26 October 1977, 4pp).
- Copy of a reply stating that she dislikes any sort of 'repressive legislation' and is willing to offer her support for the campaign (7 November 1977).
- Copy of a holograph letter from Senator GH to Garret FitzGerald concerning the appointment of the Leas Cathaoirleach of the Seanad (Senator McCartin). Refers to their conversation about the WPA (Women's Political Association) and their request to meet with FitzGerald to outline their aims and aspirations. Advises him to include women's affairs in his speeches as well as Fine Gael policy about discrimination remarking '... it would begin the refurbishing of the image!' Remarks that she and the WPA have lots of ideas to encourage women to become more actively involved in politics, in particular their participation in the *Árd Fheis*. Suggests that child care facilities at the *Árd Fheis* would be a good start. Continues 'The effort to attract "the youth"

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must be parallel with the effort to change the FG image of the conservative woman only being welcome. Young women don't like the Alice Greens and Oonagh Egans of this world, or alas, the Joan Burkes. Monica Barnes ... is chairwoman of Women Elect. Meeting the FG women of that group would be a good thing ...' Concludes 'Looking around Dáil and Senate, I have to confess that there's an enormous void there—nobody (except me?) representing the new type of younger woman ...' (4 November 1977, 3pp).

- Further letter (11 November 1977, 2pp) from Brendan Weir, Rockwood, Ballyboden, Dublin 14 to GH concerning tax affairs enclosing copies of correspondence on the subject of the injustice of taxation of married people including a copy of letter from Richie Ryan, (former Minister for Finance) to Eileen Desmond TD and copies of letters she wrote to the *Irish Times* (March–June 1975, 7pp).
- Letters from Gerard Collins TD, Minister for Justice to GH concerning her application for permission to visit prisons. Informs her that he has decided to permit visits by representatives of the political parties and, following a review of this, to permit other groups access to the prisons (17 November & 15 December 1977, 2pp).
- Copy of a reply from GH expressing her dismay as an independent senator to be described as 'other groups'. Remarks that as a woman she is particularly interested in finding out, for herself, about Irish prisons and points out that as a woman she would have different priorities and values to male visitors to the prisons. Asks the minister to reconsider her application (1 December 1977, 1p).
- Letter from Nell (McCafferty) to GH praising her work in the Seanad and urging her to make it known that she is involved in writing policy. Remarks that she has decided to leave her job but remain in West Cork and write a book about her mother. Remarks that she is looking forward to a lively WPA conference (9 December 1977, 1p).

P179/90 3 January–29 December 1978

259pp

General Correspondence 1978

File of correspondence concerning GH's election to Seanad Éireann including letters relating to policy areas, special interest topics and people who wrote to her as a public representative with a particular interest in women's and family affairs and invitations to address groups on arrange of topics. Also letters she wrote to TDs and Ministers concerning women's rights, gender equality and other issues affecting women in Irish society.

Includes:

- Letter from Liam Browne, Clerk to the Trustees, Houses of the Oireachtas (Members) Pension Fund, Leinster House, Dublin responding to a letter from GH concerning deductions from

- member's allowances in respect of the pensions scheme (23 January 1978, 1p).
- Copy of a reply stating clearly that she does not wish deductions from her salary paid into a scheme that discriminates against female members (1 February 1978, 1p).
 - Letter from Mary Higgins, Green Hills, Mather Road South, Mount Merrion, Co Dublin to GH praising her interview broadcast on Radio Éireann and her debate with George Colley (Tánaiste and Minister for Finance). Refers to Colley's rudeness and confrontational style (27 February 1978, 1p).
 - Copy of a letter from GH to Charles Haughey, Minister for Health and Social Welfare concerning the method of payment of maternity leave by the Health Boards and the effect it is having on women (6 March 1978, 1p).
 - Letter from Desmond Fisher, Director Broadcasting Development, RTE, Dublin 4 to Senator GH thanking her for her positive remarks on the publication *Irish Broadcasting Review*. Remarks that he is 'encouraged' by her views on broadcasting from the Dáil. Indicates that this is not an immediate priority for RTE. Invites her to submit an article for a future issue of *Irish Broadcasting Review* on the topic of radio and television programming for women (15 March 1978, 1p)
 - Letter from the Private Secretary, Office of the Minister for Health to Senator GH referring to her enquiry about the payment of maternity leave. Remarks that discussions with the relevant parties has succeeded in the revision of the method of payment and that it will be no longer necessary to serve a waiting period (21 March 1978, 1p).
 - Copy of a letter from GH to Charles Haughey, Minister for Health thanking him for addressing the issue of the method of paid maternity leave. Refers to legislation dealing with family planning, in particular contraception, and the great need for young women of child bearing age to be afforded access to good quality family planning information. Remarks 'Consultations with mostly male IMA members, male Health Board officers, celibate Bishops is one-sided ...' (4 April 1978, 1p).
 - Letter from John Bourke, Registrar, The National University of Ireland 49 Merrion Square to Senator GH concerning a report prepared at the behest of the Minister for Education (Richard 'Dick' Burke) concerning a proposal to dissolve the University and a report prepared by a working party appointed by the Minister. Remarks that the report was sent to the HEA in January 1977 and despite much effort the NUI has not been permitted to examine this report. Remarks '... as far as I can judge there is a deliberate conspiracy to prevent the NUI seeing it ...' Asks GH to try to obtain a copy 'If you succeed perhaps you would let me have a read of it ... to find out what it contains that the University should not see.' (10 April 1978, 1p).
 - Letter from Patrick Lynch, Department of Political Economy, UCD, Belfield, Dublin 4 to Senator GH thanking her for her report summarising her achievements in the Senate. Describes

the report as an 'admirable' way of informing her constituents about the work of the Seanad and her own contribution. Advises that after the initial period has subsided she should focus on a few select subjects. Remarks 'This, I think, was the great strength of my late friend and academic colleague George O'Brien and of my friend Owen Sheehy Skeffington who concentrated on certain areas on which they became recognised specialists and, as a result, attracted widespread attention whenever they spoke from all sections of both Houses.' Concludes by praising her comments on the 'grotesque spectacle of the Minister for Health and Social Welfare solemnly receiving the Catholic Bishops to hear their views on a subject on which one assumes their practical experience is limited! Oh! Voltaire or Myles na gCopalleen, you should be living at this hour' (11 April 1978, 1p).

- Letter from Augustine Mehigan, Medical Consultant, St Vincent's Consultants Private Clinic, Herbert Avenue, Merrion Road, Dublin 4 to Senator GH concerning her comments on the Medical Practitioners Bill describing it as a 'great piece of legislation'. Supports her dismay that there is not a greater representation of women in the IMA and reports that there is now one female member of the Council. Asks for her advice on how to encourage more women to get involved. Refers to the high intake of students into medical faculties remarking that it is unsustainable (11 April 1978, 2pp).
- Letter from P Ó Cleirigh, Secretary to the Minister (John Wilson TD), Department of Education to GH regarding her request for a copy of the report of the working party set up to examine the dissolution of the NUI. Remarks that the Minister is looking into the matter (28 April 1978, 1p).
- Letter from Joy [], Brooklyn, Greencastle, Co Donegal to GH and Mavis [] reporting on a meeting of the WPA at which Lena Jeger (Labour Party MP) had been invited to address. Remarks that the attendance was very poor but that she found Lena Jeger to be '... warm friendly and delightful.' Remarks that Jeger stayed in her house and was relieved to escape the security arranged by Don Concannon MP (Minister of State for Northern Ireland). Refers to a long and productive conversation during which she was able to inform Jeger about the Northern Ireland situation remarking 'She really has Callaghan's (British PM James Callaghan) ear on these matters.' Laments the bleak future of the WPA in Derry (14 May 1978, 1p).]
- Circular letter from David Norris, Chairman, Campaign for Homosexual Law Reform to GH enclosing literature supporting the campaign. Refers to the likelihood of legislative change and asks for her support. A note in Norris' handwriting remarks that the literature will be sent to all TDs and Senators and that he would be grateful to hear of any feedback she encounters (30 July 1978, 17pp).
- Letter from Roisín Conroy, The Library, Information Section, ITGWU (Irish Transport and General Workers Union) to GH enclosing a discussion document outlining proposals for the establishment of a Women's Centre in Ireland, a focal point for women's activity in Ireland (22 July 1978, 8pp).

- Letter from P Ó Cleirigh, Secretary to the Minister for Education, John Wilson TD to GH informing her that the working party established to examine the dissolution of the NUI did not produce a report for publication (15 September 1978, 1p).
- Letter from John Bourke, Registrar, The National University of Ireland, 49 Merrion Square, Dublin 2 to GH responding to the latest correspondence regarding the working party report to which he has repeatedly sought access. Takes issue with the wording in the letter from the Minister's Secretary about the establishment of the working party. Emphasises again that since the NUI had no representation on the HEA they were unable to see a copy of the report '... although it is the institution most interested in it.' Continues 'I do not understand the reason for the secrecy or why they should be at such pains to ensure that the NUI has not access to it, seeing that every third level educational institution in the country has access to it ... if you are the woman I think you are you won't let them away with it that easily.' (21 September 1978, 1p).
- Letter from P Heffernan, Secretary to the Minister for Education, John Wilson TD, regretting that he cannot provide a copy of the report of the working party on the dissolution of the NUI as the report was circulated, in confidence, to the Members of the Higher Education Authority (31 October 1978, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH to Sheila Conroy, Chairwoman, RTE Authority, RTE, Montrose, Dublin 4 concerning the question of women and RTE. Asks that an official request be put before the RTE Authority to carry out a formal review on this topic. Offers her assistance (1 November 1978, 1p).
- Letter from John Bourke, Registrar, The National University of Ireland, 49 Merrion Square to GH thanking her for her efforts in trying to obtain a copy of the report of the working party on the dissolution of the NUI. Acknowledges that she has done all she can (8 November 1978, 1p).
- Copy of a holograph letter from Senator GH to George Colley, (Tánaiste, Minister for Finance and Minister for the Public Service) concerning the lack of administrative support she has to assist her in carrying out her duties to her constituents in the Senate. Describes the situation as 'ludicrous'. Asks him to consider her request for a part time secretary (15 November 1978, 2pp).
- Copy of a letter from GH to The Editor 'Frontline' (a topical debate programme), RTE, Donnybrook, Dublin 4 asking that the programme include a woman on the panel for discussion who can talk on a wide range of matters relevant to the forthcoming budget. Remarks that contributions in the past have had a narrow focus and too much emphasis on consumer affairs. Volunteers to take part in the programme (19 December 1978, 1p).

P179/91 4 January 1979–14 December 1981

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General Correspondence 1979–81

File of correspondence concerning GH's role as a Senator. Many of the letters relate to her engagement with her constituents (NUI/Educational panel). Also letters relating to policy areas, special interest topics and people who wrote to her as a public representative with a particular interest in women's and family affairs, invitations to address groups on a range of topics, letters relating to issues in the Bray area including employment, amenities, local businesses.

Includes:

- Letter from Peter Feeney, Editor 'Frontline', RTE, Dublin 4 to Senator GH reacting to her criticism over the lack of meaningful participation of women in debating budgetary matters on the programme. Accepts the criticism that the focus has been too narrow but remarks that he wishes to avoid tokenism (5 January 1979, 1p).
- Copy of a reply emphasising again the importance of having a 'strong, well-informed' woman represented on a discussion panel that can speak on a wide range of topics. Agrees that 'tokenism' should be avoided (11 January 1979, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from Senator GH to Ms de Paor concerning the formation of a group [a Working Party] '... to tackle women and RTE on a broad basis.' Refers to an article she wrote and published in *Irish Broadcasting Review* (No. 3 Autumn/Winter 1978) concerning this issue. Remarks that she is concerned with the issues of gender stereotyping and employment patterns in the RTE organisation. Refers to the huge influence the media has and the impact on the general population and how it influences attitudes. Refers also to a 'deeply entrenched sexism' in Ireland. Remarks that she would be willing to make an oral submission to the Working Party (11 April 1979, 2pp).
- Letter from Helen Kilbridge, 12 Summit Road, Lexington, Massachusetts, USA to GH concerning an interview she conducted with GH for publication. Remarks that the material GH sent her will be very useful in helping her to do this. Refers to GH's interest in travelling to America and suggests a number of programmes for GH to explore in order to secure sponsorship for this visit. Describes a programme funded by the Lilly Company which focuses on supporting individuals whose work involves conflict resolution. Remarks that John Hume has been a recent participant. Also mentions Tony O'Reilly President of the Heinz Company who actively supports international exchanges of people. Includes a sheet of further questions for GH to answer for the interview (3 June 1979, 4pp).
- Copy of a reply from GH thanking Helen Kilbridge for the trouble she has taken to gather useful contacts. Encloses her responses to the questions posed (21 September 1979, 8pp).
- Postcard from Rita Childers (widow of former President of Ireland Erskine Childers) to GH praising her interview in the

Irish Times [July 1979]. Refers to the national crisis. Expresses the view that the country needs a national government. Continues 'Then my dream! Federal Government (Ulster, Munster, Leinster and Connaught)' and how this could save money (27 July 1979, 2pp).

- Letter from Irene de Lipkowski, President, International Alliance of Women, 191 Boulevard St Germain, Paris, France to GH inviting her to preside at a meeting of European women to discuss the formation of an agency to facilitate the exchange of information on activities of women in relation to the European Community. Informs her that the meeting will take place in the European Commission in Brussels (15 August 1979, 1p).
- Copy of a circular letter issued by the Contraception Action Programme, c/o 63 Lower Leeson Street, Dublin 2 concerning their campaign against the recently passed Family Planning Act. Describes how they are distributing contraceptives and educational material from their shop and stall in Dublin. Refers to the need for a mobile service facilitating the suburbs of Cork, Galway, Limerick and Dublin. Appeals for support by way of a public statement or a financial donation to help them with this work (20 August 1979, 1p).
- Letter from Mary Forde, 49 Willow Park Avenue, Dublin 11 to GH informing her that she was told by Nuala Fennell that GH's fact sheet on Irish women compiled for the DFA had been omitted from the press pack for journalists on a recent visit to Dublin. Remarks that she is writing to Fianna Fáil about their indifference to women's issues and the need to address this. Asks GH to write a paragraph about the omission of her document in the press pack so that she can include it in the letter. Refers to the visit of Pope John Paul II to Ireland and GH's article about the visit published in the *Irish Press* (4 October 1979, 1p).
- Letter from Andrew O'Rourke, Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs to Senator GH responding to her request to update the DFA 'Fact Sheet' on the Status of Women. GH wrote the original 'Fact Sheet' for the series in 1977. The 1977 Status of Women 'Fact Sheet' is enclosed with annotations (19 October 1979, 1p).
- Letter from Teresa Fulham, 55 Elm Mount Road, Beaumont, Dublin 9 to GH asking her to explain the rights a wife has to her husband's income (15 December 1979, 3pp).
- Copy of a reply from GH explaining the current situation remarking that at present a wife has virtually no right to her husband's income. Remarks that the situation becomes acute if marriage breaks down and that she is working towards improving these rights through legislation that would give wives an automatic right to half the family property and income (16 January 1980, 1p).
- Letter from Hugh Leonard, 'Theros', Coliemore Road, Dalkey, Co. Dublin to GH referring to 'threats received and remarking that he has so far received anonymous abuse. Remarks 'However, I think it likely that this may not be the case in future ... Mr Haughey's accession can only lead to a new

tolerance for everything that honourable people despise.’ (15 January 1980, 1p).

- Copy of a letter from Senator GH to Mrs Alec Feldman, Junior Chamber Ireland, Main Street, Slane, Co. Meath praising a document (attached) outlining proposals and recommendations on children’s legislation in Ireland. Remarks that she is particularly supportive of the proposal for the appointment of a government minister with sole responsibility for children’s law and children’s services (1 February 1980, 6pp).
- Card from Brenda Buckley, ‘Willsgrove’, Strandhill Road, Sligo to Senator GH praising her performance on RTE’s ‘The Late Late Show’ and her pleasure on hearing the GH felt, if she was to join a political party, that Fine Gael would be the right choice. Encourages her to join the Party. Expresses her frustration at the lack of progress for women in Sligo describing it as ‘fighting a battle’. Remarks that she would like to organise a WPA (Women’s Political Association) meeting (4 April 1980, 4pp).
- Copy of a reply from GH complimenting her own contribution during an interview for ‘Women Today’. Encourages her to continue the work in Sligo remarking ‘The party desperately needs women in the West—I have that from the horse’s mouth.’ (21 April 1980, 1p).
- Copy of a circular letter from J O’Connor, Divorce Action Group, 19 Upper Beechwood Avenue, Ranelagh, Dublin 6 to Senator GH drawing her attention to the most recent Census form and the question concerning marital status. Appeals to her to support their application to have the status of ‘separated’ included in future Census forms (20 May 1980, 2pp).
- Copy of a letter from GH to Garret FitzGerald, 20 Palmerston Road, Dublin 6 concerning the preparation of a Fine Gael election manifesto insisting that a separate section on women be included. Suggests that serious consideration should be given to the appointment of a person or group in a senior position in government to work towards the elimination of discrimination and sexism throughout Irish society (29 May 1980, 1p).
- Letter from Josie Aire, 8 Cherry Tree Road, Togher, Cork to GH concerning her decision to take the Irish Government to the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg concerning the proposed Civil Legal Aid Scheme. Remarks that she needs all the moral and financial support she can get. Remarks that she intends to speak to Mary Robinson. Refers to a meeting with Mary McAleese following her return from Strasbourg ‘... she said Josie this is not the end of anything but the start of something “something big” and by God she’s right I’m counting on you, you were the one who got me interested in everything ...’ (1 June 1980, 2pp).
- Letter from John O’Connor, Divorce Action Group, 19 Upper Beechwood Avenue, Ranelagh, Dublin 6 to Senator GH informing her that both Paddy Harte and Michael Keating agree that a category of ‘separated’ in the marital status

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section should be included on the next census form. Refers to the matter coming before a Fine Gael Parliamentary meeting as well as a question in the Dáil (3 June 1980, 1p).

- Copy of a letter from Senator GH to The Editor, the *Evening Press*, Burgh Quay, Dublin 2 taking him to task over a headline referring to Councillor Margaret Waugh appointment to lead the Dun Laoghaire Corporation which read “Granny to lead Dun Laoghaire Corporation”. Refers to the headline as ‘sexist and out of date’. Continues ‘Please, please examine the efforts of your sub-editors before you rush into print with such offensive trivialisations.’ (20 June 1980, 1p).
- Letter from FX Martin OSA, St Patrick’s, Via Piemonte 60, Roma to GH thanking her for her support for Wood Quay. Expresses the hope that their legal strategy will be successful. Refers to a renewed campaign for Wood Quay in the autumn (1 August 1980, 1p).
- Copies of letters from GH to The Irish Medical Association and the Medical Union expressing her great concern over recent reports stating that some doctors have questioned the suitability of women joining the medical profession and of limiting entry by girls to medical schools. Describes this as a ‘dangerous and retrograde’ step. Refers to the representations made to her by many of her constituents—NUI graduates, women and doctors and insists that these views be strongly rebutted (20 & 21 August 1980, 2pp).
- Reply from Noel Reilly, Secretary General, The Irish Medical Association, 10 Fitzwilliam Place, Dublin 2 stating that he will bring the matter before the Executive Committee. Remarks that The Irish Medical Association does not support these view, has never differentiated between its members and has banned posts which offered different salary scales for male and female doctors (22 August 1980, 1p).
- Copies of cuttings from the *Southside Express* reporting on remarks made by Dr Aiden Meade GP in an editorial published in the *Medical Monthly* claiming that female doctors do not reach the top of their profession because patients prefer to be treated by male doctors (20 August 1980, 2pp).

P179/92 10 August–18 October 1978

14pp

Maynooth Affair Correspondence

Correspondence, copies of newspaper cuttings, statement concerning the request by the college authorities in Maynooth for the resignation of Malachy O’Rourke, a lecturer in modern languages and Rev Dr Patrick McGrath, Professor of Logic and Metaphysics. Dr McGrath was asked to resign as a result of articles he had published that were deemed contrary to the Church’s authority while Dr McGrath was asked to resign over his failure to wear clerical garb and to reside on the campus.

Includes:

- Copies of a statement by GH calling on the Minister for

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Education to review the statutes of Maynooth that affect the appointments of staff. Remarks that if no progress is made in this matter she will explore the possibility of bringing forward a Private Members' Bill in the Senate (13 August 1978, 1p).

- Letter from Jim Lynch, Department of Scholastic Philosophy. The Queen's University of Belfast to GH praising her statement on Maynooth and urging her to keep pressure on the Minister (14 August 1978, 1p).
- Letter from Kitty Quinn, Personal Assistant to Conor Cruise O'Brien, Whitewater, Howth Summit, Dublin to Senator GH expressing Cruise O'Brien's interest in her statement on Maynooth and remarking that he would like to be present in the Senate if she introduces a Private Members Bill (11 October 1978, 1p).
- Letter from Rev Joseph Spelman, Secretary, Executive Council, St Patrick's College, Maynooth, Co Kildare to Senator GH asking her to clarify comments made by her and published in a report in the *Irish Times* on 14 November 1978 regarding the annual state grant paid to Maynooth (22 November 1978, 1p).
- Further letter from Rev Joseph Spelman replying to a letter from Senator GH stating that the Council did not feel that GH had clarified her remarks. Asks her again to provide clarification (20 December 1978, 1p).
- Copy of a reply from GH to Rev Spelman expressing regret that her letter did not clarify matters for the Executive Council. Remarks 'Perhaps the College Executive Council would provide me with a similar brief summary of their views on the question of Maynooth—controlled by religious—and State grants.' (9 January 1979, 1p).
- Reply from Rev Spelman to GH expressing again the Council's regret that she could not provide a fuller reply. Remarks 'The Council feels there is nothing to be gained by continuing this correspondence.' (9 February 1979, 1p).

3.1.4 Speeches 1977-[79]

P179/93 1977-[1979]

64pp

File of Speeches

File of mostly drafts of speeches, notes, correspondence.

Includes:

- Two copies of a speech delivered in the Seanad during the second stage of the Medical Practitioners Bill 1977. Annotated (1977, 6pp).
- Correspondence, programme concerning Senator GH's conference paper entitled 'Women in Irish life' delivered during the annual conference of the Irish Medical Union. Also includes a draft of her paper (24 March–23 October 1977, 37pp).
- Speech delivered by GH to a public meeting at the Royal

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Starlight Hotel, Bray Co Wicklow entitled 'The Irish Constitution: Theory or Practice'. The meeting was organised by the Fine Gael North Wicklow Executive. Annotated (5 October [1977], 5pp).

- Holograph draft of a speech entitled 'Education' ([1978], 4pp).
- Letter from John D Mulcahy, Editor of *Hibernia*, a weekly review publication to GH, 29 Temple Road, Dartry, Dublin 6 asking if she would like to develop a speech she gave in Bray on the NUI for an article for the publication (6 October 1978, 1p).
- Copy of an article by GH and based on a speech she gave on the NUI for publication in the weekly review magazine *Hibernia* (10 October 1978, 4pp).

3.1.5 Senate Administration 1977-80

P179/94 20 November 1977-24 November 1980

24pp

Committee on Procedure and Privileges

Copies of minutes, copies of agendas, copies of correspondence, correspondence, notices.

Includes:

- Details concerning the members pension scheme and the provision for widowers in the scheme (30 November 1977, 2pp).
- Letter from Séamus Dolan, Chairman, Committee on Procedure and Privileges to GH concerning an item on broadcasting proceedings she would like included for the next meeting of the committee. Remarks that he does not think this item can be included and proposes to meet her to discuss the matter. Encloses a list of members of the committee (7 April 1978, 2pp).
- Agenda including an item on the broadcasting of debates submitted by GH. Annotated by GH with points concerning the possibility of RTE broadcasting debates from the Senate chamber. Refers to a decision in Britain to go ahead with broadcasting following a trial period (14 April 1978 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH to the Cathaoirleach, Séamus Dolan, Seanad Éireann, Leinster House, Dublin 2 informing him that she has joined the Fine Gael Parliamentary party in the senate and that she wishes to resign as an independent member of the Committee on Procedures and Privileges (24 November 1980, 1p).

3.1.6 Commission of Enquiry into the Irish Penal System 1979–80

P179/95 26 January–2 February 1979

8pp

Establishment of Commission

Letter, statement, newspaper cutting, programme, lists concerning the establishment of a public commission of inquiry into the penal system in Ireland.

Includes:

- List containing the names and addresses of members of the Commission of Enquiry (Not dated, 3pp).
- Letter from Garreth Byrne, Secretary, Commission of Enquiry into Irish Penal System, Prisoners' Rights Organisation, 168 Rathgar Road. Rathgar, Dublin 6 to Senator GH inviting her to become a member of the Commission. A note on the letter indicates that GH accepted the invitation (26 January 1979, 1p).
- Copy of a newspaper cutting announcing the three day public inquiry into Irish prisons. Reports that the Commission was set up 'because of the failure of the Minister for Justice, Mr Collins, to mount a Government investigation into the prison system here ...' Also reports that the Commission will be jointly chaired by Seán MacBride SC and Mr Louk Hulsman, Proferssor of criminology at the University of Erasmus in Holland (20 February 1979, 1p).
- Programme outlining the three day public inquiry providing details of the presentations and names of speakers (6–8 April 1979, 1 item).

P179/96 30 July 1979–22 September 1980

49pp

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes of meetings of the commission who met after the three day public enquiry in order to prepare a report into the Irish prison system.

Includes:

- Allocation of the different sections of the report and the names of those who agreed to undertake to prepare draft chapters (30 July 1979, 1p).
- Discussion on the progress of the draft chapters. Co-option of Muirean Ó Briain to the Commission (2 October 1979, 2pp).
- Further discussion on the draft chapters for the report and agreement that members of the Commission will meet relevant parties e.g. teachers from deprived areas, a school attendant officer, Garda Commissioner, Christian Brothers, Oblates. Agreement that a two day meeting of the Commission will be held in the College of Industrial Relations (24 October 1979, 2pp).

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- Agreement on the order of chapters for the report. Response from the Garda Commissioner that it would be ‘inappropriate’ for him to attend a meeting of the Commission. Summary of the main points arising out of a meeting with the Irish Association of Social Workers. Also summary of concerns raised by the Prisoners’ Rights Organisation regarding women’s prisons and children’s prisons (12 January 1980, 3pp).
- Agreement that Seán MacBride would write to the Minister of Justice (Gerard Collins TD) to seek a meeting (copy of letter attached, 1 May 1980, 2pp). Summary of points made by Charles Colson, President of the Prison Fellowship Organisation who addressed the meeting of the Commission (23 April 1980, 2pp).
- Summary of notes taken by Gemma Hussey of remarks by Charles Colson of the Prison Fellowship Organisation at a meeting of the Commission (23 April 1980, 3pp).
- Summary of submissions received by the Commission by interested parties (27 May 1980, 2pp).
- Noted that a reply to Seán MacBride’s letter inviting the Minister for Justice to meet with the Commission had been received from the Minister. Copy of letter enclosed, 7 May 1980, 1p, and a copy of Seán MacBride’s response to the questions posed in the Minister’s letter (19 May 1980, 2pp).
- Copy of a letter received from the Garda Commissioner, P Mc Laughlin, Garda Síochána, Phoenix Park, Dublin 8 to Seán MacBride SC, Roebuck House, Clonskea, Dublin 14 commenting that he does not consider it appropriate that either he or any of his officers should meet with the Commission. Remarks ‘... it does not fall within my area of competence to discuss or otherwise comment on the prison system and the treatment of prisoners.’ (13 May 1980, 1p).

P179/97 3 October 1979–12 December 1980

69pp

Correspondence

File of letters relating to the work of the Commission.

Includes:

- Copy of a letter from GH, 29 Temple Road, Dublin 6 addressed to members of the Commission concerning notes (attached) compiled by Una Higgins O’Malley of verbal and written submissions received by the Commission from a range of interested parties. Urges the members to attend the next meeting of the Commission (7 February 1980, 14pp).
- Letter from LJ Mader, Second Secretary and Vice Consul, Canadian Embassy, 65 St Stephen’s Green, Dublin 2 to Senator GH enclosing information on the penal system in Canada (3 March 1980, 3pp).
- Copy of a letter from Una Higgins O’Malley, Dunamase, Cross Avenue, Booterstown, Co Dublin to Seán MacBride SC, Chairman of the Commission enclosing draft recommendations

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that she has drawn up based on suggestions from the Commission and oral and written submissions received by the Commission. Remarks that she feels she has taken it as far as she can at this stage and that further response from members of the Commission is required to move things forward. Remarks that she cannot deal with submissions of a legal nature or suggestions for changes in the legal system (4 May 1980, 8pp).

- Letter from Helen Spillane, Secretary, Prisoner's Rights Organisation, 35 Lower Buckingham Street, Dublin 1 to Senator GH thanking her for the work she carried out as a member of the Commission. Remarks that they are very pleased with the report (12 December 1980, 1p).

P179/98 1970–1980

58pp

Background Material

File of notes, statistical information, draft questionnaire, copies of reports, remarks, comments, copy of an article relating to the work of the Commission.

Includes:

- Copy of a report by the National Association of Probation Officers to the Inquiry into the United Kingdom Prison Service (December 1978, 13pp).
- Copy of a question to the Minister for Justice submitted by Eileen Desmond (Member of the European Parliament) enquiring about the whereabouts of children released from Loughan House and the reasons for their transfer or release. Includes the reply from the Minister (6 December 1979, 1p)
- Copy of a further question submitted by Eileen Desmond to the Minister for Justice asking the number of children age 12 to 16 years detained at Loughan House, the length of their stay and the number of parents who availed of the monthly free travel voucher to visit their children. Includes the Minister's reply (6 December 1979, 1p).
- Copy of a list compiled by the Irish Association of Social Workers of facilities for offenders (10 January 1980, 2pp).
- Copy of a document compiled by the Commission suggesting legislative change relating to offenders. Annotated ([1979/80], 11pp).
- Copy of a report received from the National Swedish Council of Crime Prevention entitled 'Non-Institutional Treatment and Rehabilitation' (Not dated, 2pp).
- Copy of an article published in the *New Statesman* entitled 'Let half of them out' arising out of an interview with the Governor Roger Attrill of Wisconsin Green Prison, Birmingham, USA (19 September 1980, 2pp).

P179/99 9 October–24 November 1980

88pp

Draft Report

Draft of the report of the Commission, notes relating to the cost of printing the report, copy of the press release.

Includes:

- Two copies of the draft report. Annotated (15 September and November 1980, 142pp).
- Copy of a script submitted by Seán MacBride SC [introducing the report of the Commission]. ([October 1980, 4pp).
- Copy of a letter from Seán MacBride SC, Chairman of the Commission, Roebuck House, Clonskea, Dublin 14 to the Members of the Commission of Enquiry into the Irish Penal System referring to the draft of the report and the rewriting that has occurred. Asks that members attend the next meeting of the Commission so that the various chapters can be finalised and the report compiled (9 October 1980, 1p).
- Copy of the press release announcing the publication of the Prison Reform Report of the Commission of Enquiry into the Irish Penal System (24 November 1980, 1p).

P179/100 November 1980

93pp

Final Report

Copy of the final report of the Commission. Includes an introduction to the report describing the establishment of the Commission of Enquiry, the background to the global concern of the rights of prisoners, the background to the establishment of this privately convened Commission of Enquiry and the methodology employed by the Commission in the compilation of the report

3.1.7 Visit to USA 1979–80

P179/101 26 October 1979–23 October 1980

107pp

International Visitor's Programme, USA

Notes, copies of speeches, correspondence relating to Senator GH's visit to American following an invitation issued by the US Government under the International Visitor's Programme. GH achieved the award for her work in the area of Community and Government. The visit lasted a month and afforded GH the opportunity to meet with political and community leaders throughout the country.

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Includes:

- Letter from Robin A Berrington, Public Affairs Officer, United States International Communication Agency, US Embassy, 42 Elgin Road, Dublin 4 to GH acknowledging receipt of her biographical details to be used for her nomination for the programme. Describes the purpose of the International Visitor's Programme '... to bring leaders from many countries to the United States to enable them to meet with American counterparts, discuss issues of common interest and to develop personal and institutional linkages ...' Describes how visits can be tailored according to preferences. Remarks that she will be contacted once confirmation of her nomination is received from Washington (26 October 1979, 2pp).
- Copy of a press release announcing the leadership award from the US government to GH (22 November 1979, 1p).
- Letter from William V Shannon, US Ambassador, Embassy of the USA, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4 to Senator GH informing her of her selection to participate in the International Visitor Programme of the US government. Outlines the objectives of the programme and what she might hope to achieve during her visit (26 November 1979, 2pp).
- Letter from Gay Byrne, RTE, Dublin 4 to GH inviting her to take part in the Late Late Show to describe her experiences in America (1 December 1979, 1p).
- Copy of GH's itinerary for her month long visit to the USA (17 February–20 March 1980, 9pp).
- Copy of a press release announcing Senator GH's return from her five week political tour of the USA. Outlines the places visited, the people she met and activities she participated in (24 March 1980, 1p).

P179/102 17 February–20 March 1980

44pp

International Visitor's Programme, USA—Diary

Transcripts of a diary recorded by GH during her visit to America. Discusses the places she visited and the people she met, her impressions about America and the different personalities she encountered. Comments on the social and political scene as she visited cities on the east and west coasts.

Includes:

- Describes meeting Ernie Mills, a widely respected journalist who negotiated with prisoners in the Santa Fe prison riot to save the lives of prison guards taken hostage. Remarks that he told her about the extremely tense situation and the violence he witnessed and the long term effect it has had on him. Describes their conversation about the prison system in America.
- Describes her reluctance to attend the Ireland Fund function in San Francisco and fears that it will too much of an 'Irish Irish thing'. Continues by recording her impressions of San

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Francisco and describes her visit to City Hall and meeting with some of the members of the Board of Supervisors. Remarks that she was told about the murder of Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk by former Supervisor Dan White and the riots that occurred after White was found guilty of voluntary manslaughter. Describes meeting Dianne Feinstein, Mayor of San Francisco.

- Refers to her journey back to the east coast and her visit to Boston and describes her visit to Boston City Hall and Harvard. Also her visit to New York and Madison, capital city of the State of Wisconsin. Summarises her visit to America remarking that the tour took five weeks and that she visited eight states. Remarks that she spoke to or at least visited members of State legislatures of Illinois, Wisconsin, Arkansas, New Mexico, California and Massachusetts. Remarks that she was introduced on the floor of State houses of Madison, Wisconsin, Little Rock, Arkansas, Santa Fe, New Mexico and Boston Massachusetts. And that in Washington she was entertained in the White House and had a meeting with the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Tip O'Neill.

3.1.8 Leader of the House 1980–81

P179/103 7 May 1980–19 November 1981

118pp

Appointment

Notes, correspondence, agendas, lists of committees and members, lists of Fine Gael Senators, copies of speeches.

Includes:

- Copy of a list of Fine Gael Seanad spokespersons (7 May 1980, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH to the Taoiseach Garret FitzGerald concerning the preparation of legislation where money is no object. Expresses her concerns about women's issues and encloses a memorandum she has prepared (attached). With regard to her proposal to establish a Fine Gael women's rights bureau, she remarks that she would be willing to take on the role of director as well as the leadership of the Senate. Recommends Senator Katherine Bulbulia as a member of the Strategy Committee (6 August 1981, 1p).
- Copy of a memorandum prepared by GH for the Taoiseach Garret FitzGerald concerning Fine Gael and women. Refers to the success of the party in the general election which would not have been achieved without the influx of prominent women to the party. Remarks that Fine Gael's policy statement published in April 1981 'National Partnership through Equality' was very well received by women's organisations. This statement and the appointment of a spokesperson on women's affairs have been instrumental in giving Fine Gael a lead over other political parties (notably Fianna Fáil) in

women's affairs. Remarks that a strong section on women included in the Fine Gael election manifesto was also very important. Emphasises that it is vital that Fine Gael in government is fully committed to meaningful reform for women. Remarks that since the election there has been no action or discussion 'It is only a matter of time before this becomes a major stick to beat the government with, and only a matter of time before Fianna Fáil and the radical wing of the women's movement combine to cry "betrayal!" It is my firm belief that Fine Gael could not have won the election without an enormous women's vote. It is a volatile vote which can be lost as well as gained.' Outlines twenty suggestions on how Fine Gael can maintain a high profile in the area of women's issues (4 August 1981, 3pp).

- Copy of a press release concerning an address by GH to the Women's Political Association promising 'sweeping reforms' of the Senate (23 September 1981, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH to the Taoiseach Garret FitzGerald enclosing a list of her suggestions for the front bench and spokespeople for the Senate and the committees of the Senate. Strongly advises the Taoiseach to appoint Nuala Fennell to the marriage committee as well as the women's rights committee. Remarks that she would like to be appointed to the Northern Ireland group. Refers to the importance of making a start on implementing the election and policy programme. Asks if the Taoiseach could make an announcement concerning the appointment of equality officers to semi-state bodies and reminds him that this was a major point in the election programme. Remarks that she would like to include something about this in a speech she is making at a women's dinner in Bray. Asks the Taoiseach to reply to a letter sent by Nuala Fennell last August (2 October 1981, 1p)
- Draft prepared by GH of suggestions for Senate positions and names for committees. Annotated ([2 October 1981], 2pp).
- Copy of a press release concerning the opening of a debate in the Senate by GH on the Taoiseach's constitutional initiative concerning Northern Ireland (8 October 1981, 1p).
- Copy of a speech by GH opening the debate on the Government's constitutional motion to review and reform the Constitution and legislation (8 October 1981, 12pp).
- Copy of a letter from GH to Donal Kelly and Seán Duignan, RTE Radio, Donnybrook, Dublin 4 appealing to them to change the title of their programme from 'Dáil Report' to 'Oireachtas Report'. Remarks that she is of course aware that the Dáil is the main House of the Oireachtas but that it is the intention of the Government to initiate more legislation in the Senate than has been done in the past. Remarks that it is also intended to 'update and re-vitalise' procedures in the Senate (19 October 1981, 1p).
- Copy of a press release concerning a speech by GH addressing the Constituency Executive of Dublin North-Central constituency of Fine Gael calling for the establishment of a ministry for women's affairs (17 November 1981, 5pp).

3.2 Seanad Éireann, Second Term

3.2.1 Campaign and Election 1981

P179/104 23 March–24 July 1981

97pp

Campaign

Election literature, copies of newspaper cuttings, notes correspondence, statements, biographical details relating to GH's campaign for re-election to Seanad Éireann. GH made the decision to run again in the Senate elections following her failure to win a seat in the general election in the Wicklow constituency.

Includes:

- Copy of a press release announcing GH's intention to stand again for her NUI seat in the Senate. Refers to her defeat in the general election in the Wicklow constituency. She was defeated on the eighth count by a margin of 171 votes. Provides a synopsis of her achievements in the Senate and some biographical details (15 June 1981, 1p).
- Draft lists of nominators for Senator Gemma Hussey and the NUI Constituency Panel, Seanad Éireann (25 June 1981, 3pp).
- Copy of a press release concerning endorsements for GH's bid to retain her seat in the Senate from the Taoiseach Garret FitzGerald and Seán MacBride (3 July 1981, 1p).
- Letter from John [] written on board an Irish Continental ferry *en route* to Le Havre, France to GH concerning the disappointment at GH's failure to win the fourth seat in the Wicklow constituency in the general election. Remarks that he feels sure that she will be successful at the next election. Refers to meetings of the Fine Gael Parliamentary Party and the experience GH has had at these meetings describing 'waves of hate' at the meetings. Remarks 'The Party has been changed by Garret (FitzGerald) and the old guard are smarting from what is their defeat in his success. Don't worry about it but accept that he may have to do some things he would rather not do, given the present composition of his majority or lack of it.' (9 July 1981, 2pp).

P179/105 13 March–October 1981

c200pp

Election

Mostly letters and cards of support and encouragement concerning GH's campaign for Seanad Éireann and commiserating with her over her failure to win the fourth seat in the Wicklow constituency in the general election. Also letters, cards and telegrams of congratulations following her successful campaign and election to the Senate.

Includes:

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contd

- Letter from Philip P O'Reilly, Returning Officer, Circuit Court Office, Courthouse, Wicklow to GH refunding her deposit of £100 that accompanied her nomination following her failure to win a seat in the Wicklow constituency in the general election (15 June 1981, 1p).
- List of Fine Gael candidates and the relative panels for the 1981 Seanad Elections (3 July 1981, 4pp).
- Copy of a reply from GH to Councillor Louise Farrell, Palmers Hill, Cashel, Co. Tipperary acknowledging her congratulations and expressing her pleasure at topping the poll in the Senate elections. Expresses her disappointment that Garret FitzGerald did not appoint more women to the Senate from his list and remarks that she was particularly shocked that Monica Barnes was excluded. Wonders if the Fine Gael's women's group and Louise Farrell's own group in Cashel should make representations to the Taoiseach about the matter '... because we must show him that we are alive and well, and that feminism in Fine Gael is a reality.' (24 August 1981, 1p).
- Copy of a photograph published in the Irish Times showing the three successful candidates in the NUI Senate election, Professor John A Murphy, Gemma Hussey and Brendan Ryan (14 August 1981, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH to Professor Gus Martin, 6 Cambridge Terrace, Dublin 6 expressing her sorrow that he was not successful in the Senate elections. Thanks him for his friendship and encouragement. Remarks 'I know you think that if I had been elected in Wicklow (in the general election), you might still be in the Senate; I don't know if that is true or not, but I am certainly sorry if anything I did has helped to lose you your seat.' (20 August 1981, 1p).

3.2.2 First and Second Term Publicity and Media [1978]; 1980-81

P179/106 5 April 1978–October 1981

54pp

NUI Graduate Constituency

File of draft circular letters and copies of circular letters sent by GH to the graduate constituents of the NUI and letters from graduates who supported GH in her Senate bid thanking her for her communications. Many of the letters outline areas of concern and interest, asking GH to raise the issues in the Senate on their behalf.

Includes:

- Letter from Joe Curley, Joseph Curley Associates, Bridge House Centre, Dominick Street, Galway to GH thanking her for her newsletter. Remarks that his interests lie in the areas of the development of Ireland's natural resources and the re-organisation of the local government system (7 April 1978, 1p).
- Letter from John A Murray, Lecturer, Centre for Marketing Studies, Department of Business Administration, Faculty of

Commerce, University College Dublin to GH remarking that his areas of concern are higher education in Ireland and the lack of long-term planning for the social and economic future of the country (11 April 1978, 1p).

- Letter from Michael Keating TD, Dáil Eireann to GH highlighting urban problems, in particular social, economic, cultural and educational problems in inner city Dublin. Remarks that he would be grateful for any assistance she can offer (12 April 1978, 1p).
- Letter from Mary Muldoon, 34A Dargle Wood, Knocklyon Road, Templeogue, Dublin 16 to GH referring to her forthcoming meeting with the Teacher's Unions. Remarks that she would be grateful if GH could mention the importance of 'proper' contracts for teachers in Community Schools and for clarification regarding the ratio of religious to lay people appointed to the Boards of Management of these schools (18 April 1978, 1p).
- Letter from Máire Warren, Ráth Mhuire, 64 Marian Crescent, Rathfarnham, Dublin 14 to GH thanking her for her circular. Expresses an interest in the outcome of GH's meetings with the executives of the ASTI (Association of Secondary School Teachers, Ireland), INTO (Irish National Teacher's Organisation) and TUI (Teacher's Union of Ireland). Encourages GH to continue to pursue reform of taxation for married women. Compliments GH on her recent radio interview remarking '... you acquitted yourself extremely well against the Tánaiste, Mr Colley. Indeed a very short time after that he appears to have taken a more moderate approach.' (1 May 1978, 2pp).
- Letter from Clare O'Reilly, Killakee, Torquay Road, Foxrock, Co. Dublin to GH concerning the Viking archaeological site at Wood Quay, describing it as a 'sorry mess'. Asks GH to take '...IMMEDIATE action ...' to stop the destruction of the site (12 September 1978, 2pp).
- Letter from Michael O'Kennedy, Minister for Finance to GH referring to her circular letter to NUI graduates. Expresses his concern over the presentation in her letter of recent changes to the taxation of married couples describing it as '... seriously unbalance and misleading.' Defends his statement issued following the Supreme Court decision regarding speculation that the changes introduced may give rise to a reduction in liabilities for tax. Remarks that further measures announced in the budget meant that such a scenario did not arise. Asks GH to clarify matters with the NUI graduates who received her letter (14 April 1980, 1p).
- Copy of a reply defending her letter remarking that it contained an 'honest assessment of how things appeared to me and many of my colleagues.' Continues 'I regard the present state of taxation as something approaching long overdue justice for married women.' (18 April 1980, 1p).

P179/107 [1977];5 November 1979–1 November 1980

37pp

Press Releases—General Topics

File of copies of press releases issued by GH on a variety of issues. Includes:

- Holograph draft of a statement concerning the taxation of married couples and the inequalities in the system (Not dated, 1p).
- Copy of a statement entitled ‘Democracy Under Threat?’ (Not dated, 2pp).
- Call for the establishment of an Anti-discrimination Legal Group (Not dated, 1p).
- Copy of a press release concerning the importance of the role women have to play in Northern Ireland (Not dated, 1p).
- Copy of a statement concerning the need to overhaul pensions and the urgent need to protect widows (Not dated, 1p).
- Release issued following the publication of a Department of Foreign Affairs fact sheet (enclosed) entitled ‘Status of Women’, prepared by Senator Gemma Hussey. Includes the original fact sheet (dated October 1977, 6pp) annotated by GH (1 January 1980, 5pp).
- Copy of a statement concerning the dirty protest in Armagh women’s prison. Annotated ([February 1980], 3pp).
- Copy of a press release concerning divorce (19 May [1980], 1p).
- Copy of a press release on the occasion of the launch by GH of a family law book entitled ‘Can You Stay Married?’ (21 May 1980, 1p).
- Copies of a speech delivered by GH at the opening ceremony of the Dalkey School Project antique fair. Annotated (25 June 1980, 2pp).
- Copy of a press release criticising the government’s Rape Bill (25 June 1980, 1p).

P179/108 17 November 1980–25 May 1981

73pp

Press Releases as Fine Gael Spokesperson on Women’s Issues

File of copies of mostly press releases and statements issued by GH on issues relating to women’s affairs.

Includes:

- Copies of correspondence, copy of a report, copy of a statement relating to a workshop at the Women’s Forum of the Council for the Status of Women on the topic of Armagh women’s prison and a debate on whether this was a feminist issue. Concern was raised about the conduct of the workshop and the inadequacy of the report presented at the Forum (17 November–1 December 1980, 16pp)
- Copy of a statement announcing the appointment of GH by the Fine Gael Leader Dr Garret FitzGerald as party spokesperson

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on women's issues. Remarks that this is the first such appointment by any political party in Ireland (20 November 1980, 1p).

- Copy of a statement issued by GH outlining the steps the Fine Gael Party would take to improve equality for women in Ireland whether they work inside or outside the home. Includes details of areas requiring specific attention such as widows and single parents, childcare, health care for women, education, women in industry, commitment to voluntary organisations who assist women in crisis situations. Annotated (Not dated, 4pp).
- Statement issued by GH on the Employment Equality Agency Report (9 January 1981, 1p).
- Copy of a press statement concerning a letter (copy attached, 12 January 1981, 1p) from GH to Michael O'Kennedy, Irish Commissioner in the EEC regarding new member states and the extra demands this will place on Brussels to address the needs of women across the EEC (12 January 1981, 1p).
- Copy of a statement concerning a speech entitled 'Reform the Illegitimacy Law—on an all-party basis' delivered by GH at a public meeting organised by Young Fine Gael in University College Cork. Annotated (21 January 1981, 3pp).
- Copy of *FLAC File* a magazine published by the Free Legal Advice Centres (FLAC) and an article by GH published in the magazine entitled 'Rape—the most difficult crime, the most misunderstood crime' (January 1981, 20pp).
- Copy of a statement by GH on the Family Law Bill 1981 (24 February 1981, 1p).
- Copy of a speech by GH at a public meeting of the Child Minder's Union (3 March 1981, 1p).
- Copy of a speech by GH at a public meeting on divorce in the Mellifont Hotel, Bray, county Wicklow (6 April 1981, 1p).
- Copy of a statement issued by the Fine Gael press office announcing the launch of a major policy document on Women's Affairs authored by GH entitled 'National Partnership through Equality'. Outlines the main proposals in the document (6 April 1981, 3pp).
- Copy of a press release concerning the presentation by GH of the policy document on Women's Affairs to women's organisations at a function in Leinster House (9 April 1981, 1p).

P179/109 21 July 1978–20 October 1980; [June 1981]

35pp

Personal Publicity

Black and white photographs, biographical details, magazine and newspaper articles profiling Senator GH.

Includes:

- Black and white portrait photographs of GH (Not dated, 4 items).
- Copy of an article entitled 'On Being Irish and a Woman in the

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contd

70s' profiling Carmel Heaney, Consul General in Boston and Senator GH against the background of the ongoing struggle for women's rights in Ireland and the women's movement in America and Ireland. Discusses both women's backgrounds, their education and professional lives, their achievements and beliefs (Not dated, 15pp).

- Article profiling GH entitled 'The Provocative Senator...' published in *Woman's Way* (21 July 1978, 10pp).
- Profile of GH by Elgy Gillespie published in the *Irish Times* (10 February 1979, 2pp).
- Interview with GH by Geraldine Kennedy published in the *Irish Times* in which GH outlines her position on the political system and the need for a re-examination (5 July 1979, 2pp).
- Letter from Terry Prone, Carr Communications PR Ltd, 75 Orwell Road, Rathgar, Dublin 6 to GH enclosing an a proposal to advise GH on public relations in her role as an NUI Senator and the development of her image as a public representative. Annotated (30 August 1979, 10pp)
- Copy of a reply from GH thanking Prone for her proposal remarking 'When I recovered from the fright of imagining myself all parcelled up I found it interesting but slightly puzzling.' Asks if they could arrange a meeting (12 September 1979, 1p).
- Interview by Paulynn Quinn with GH entitled 'Politician and Feminist Without Apology' published in *Irish Tatler* (October 1980, 10pp).
- Black and white photograph of GH with Godfrey Timmins (FG) and ? taken [during the 1981 general election campaign] ([June 1981], 1 item).

3.2.3 Correspondence 1981-82

[1978]; 1981-82

c600pp

Senator GH—Correspondence Files 'A-Z'

Series of correspondence files relating to GH's second term as a Senator and to her role as Leader of Seanad Éireann. Topics cover the day to day working of the Seanad, appeals from her constituents for help and assistance, communications between her and the Taoiseach Garret FitzGerald and other government ministers, letters from women raising inequality issues in their professional and personal lives. The correspondence is arranged in alphabetical order according to the author of the letter

P179/110 14 January-13 September 1981

7pp

Senator GH—Correspondence File—'A'

Includes:

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contd

- Circular letter from Joseph Anderson, Campaign Co-ordinator for the abolition of all death penalty legislation in Ireland inviting her to speak at an event to support their campaign (14 January 1981, 3pp).
- Copy of a reply regretting that she cannot attend the event but pledges her support for the campaign (28 January 1981, 1p).

P179/111 24 January 1981–2 November 1981

78pp

Senator GH—Correspondence File—‘B’

Includes:

- Copy of a letter from GH to Peter Barry TD, Minister for the Environment urging him to meet with a deputation from a group which is concerned about the lead content of petrol (16 October 1981, 1p).
- Reply agreeing to meet the deputation (23 October 1981, 1p).
- Copy of a circular letter from Frank P Biggar, 27 North Avenue, Mount Merrion, Co Dublin to GH concerning the H Block crisis and the death of the hunger strikers. Suggests that a special category status should be re-established for all prisoners convicted in the North’s special courts (8 July 1981, 2pp).
- Copy of a reply acknowledging his letter and expressing hope that a settlement to the crisis will happen soon (27 July 1981, 1p).
- Further letter from Frank P Biggar to GH thanking her for her acknowledgement but expressing his wish again that she raises his suggestions with senior figures in Fine Gael. Asks her for any comments she may have about his proposals so that he can amend them if necessary (29 July 1981, 2pp).
- Letter from Fiona Poole, formerly President of the INTO (Irish National Teachers’ Organisation) to GH outlining a number of areas of concern to the Union and asking her to raise these with the Minister. Refers to a proposal to have two intakes at junior infant level, the introduction of pre-school education and panel rights for teachers and their employment (19 October 1981, 4pp).
- Letter from Jim Lysaght, Mallow Post-Primary School, Mallow, county Cork to GH expressing his concern over remarks by the Minister for Education (John Boland) and remedial teaching. Remarks that he is concerned about the quota of teachers appointed under the current regime and the inability of schools to appoint remedial teachers because of this system. Expresses concern for the families of children who need extra help and the onus on them to meet the cost of this assistance (28 October 1981, 3pp).
- Copy of a letter from GH to the Minister for Education, John Boland TD outlining the concerns raised by Wicklow constituents who are also teachers and members of the INTO at a recent meeting. Remarks that she expressed the points made at the Fine Gael Parliamentary Party meeting by the

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Minister but felt that this did nothing to placate those present. Remarks that she also appealed to the INTO executive to ‘... be more reasonable and less contentious in their dealings with you.’ (27 October 1981, 2pp).

- Copy of a letter from GH to the newly elected Prime Minister of Norway, Gro Harlem Brundtland. Remarks that Brundtland’s election has given her great encouragement. Refers to the women’s movement in Ireland as ‘... a long way behind Norway in its laws and practices concerning women.’ (13 February 1981, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH to John Bruton TD, Minister for Finance raising the subject of the ‘... the enormous expenditure on Knock Airport.’ Remarks that she has met with much criticism about the airport wherever she goes as well as receiving letters on the issue. Continues ‘I am very much inclined to agree wholeheartedly with what they say, and I desperately need to be convinced myself that there is some justification for the airport.’ (19 October 1981, 1p).

P179/112 5 January–7 December 1981

62pp

Senator GH—Correspondence File—‘C’

Includes:

- Letter from Kevin Carey, 43 Raymond Street, South Circular Road, Dublin 8 to GH concerning the recent Supreme Court ruling on the Rent Control Act. Remarks that it has caused much anxiety amongst tenants, many of them elderly, who have lived in house for decades and who fear that they will be unable to meet demands for increased rents and evicted (15 October 1981, 1p)
- Copy of a reply from GH assuring him that the Government is preparing legislation to alleviate some of the issues that have arisen due to the Supreme Court ruling. Remarks ‘... there is absolutely no way that the Government wants to see old people distressed in any way ...’ (29 October 1981, 1p).
- Letter from Frances Cooke, 9 Whitebeam Avenue, Clonskeagh, Dublin 14 to GH expressing a wish to get actively involved in current affairs, inspired by a recent visit to the USA. Remarks that she is not affiliated to a political party and would prefer to remain independent (26 January 1981, 3pp).
- Reply from GH encouraging her to join the WPA (Women’s Political Association). Remarks that it is not a party political organisation but facilitates women who wish to participate in public life ‘It has a lively group of committed people who always need the support of additional members who may or may not become actively involved just as they wish.’ (30 January 1981, 1p).
- Letter from Anne Cooper, 4 Greenogue Drive, Rathcoole to GH concerning social partnership and the rights of women who work in the home, the Maternity Bill, which she describes as

'discriminatory' as it allows for a payment to women who are taking time off from their careers to care for their child. Remarks that the payment should be made to all women. Refers also to the community work carried out by mothers who work in the home and the importance of their contribution to society (2 May 1981, 6pp).

- Letter from Patricia Howard [Cossley], Rathmatier Cottage, Ballintober, Kanturk, Co Cork to GH expressing her view about Irish women and their role and place in Irish society which she describes as entirely supporting men. Remarks that she despairs over the lack of ambition or interest in trying to change this imbalance, particularly amongst women themselves. Outlines a number of suggestions on what should be done in order to bring about change, in particular for rural women (25 January 1981, 7pp).
- Copy of a reply from GH thanking her for her letter and remarking how much she admires the sentiments expressed in the letter. Describes the letter as 'frank' and 'strong' and that she is in agreement with almost all the points raised in the letter. Remarks that she has taken note of the suggestions made in the letter and issues an invitation to visit her in Leinster House to discuss the points further (2 February 1981, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH to TJ Cox, Conference Director, IMI, Sandyford Road, Dublin 14 concerning a management conference organised by the IMI. Refers to a line in the circular (enclosed) 'There will be an interesting mini conference for wives.' Asks if there is a similar arrangement for the spouses of female managers attending the conference (11 February 1981, 1p).
- Reply from TJ Cox admitting that the notice could have been worded more 'felicitously' and assures her that the conference brochure uses an alternative form of words that will not cause offence (16 February 1981, 1p).
- Letter from Molly Cranny, Irish Housewives Association, 8 Dawson Street, Dublin 2 to GH congratulating her on her appointment as Parliamentary Party Spokesperson on women's issues. Refers to the appointment as a first by any political party in Ireland ([5] January 1981, 1p).
- Letter from Jeremy Crean, 4 Beaumont Road Whitehall, Dublin 9 to GH thanking her for her report on sexism. Refers to a project group he is working with and the drafting of a Bill. Remarks that the group are struggling to come up with an appropriate definition of sexism and asks for GH's advice (2 February 1981, 3pp).
- Copy of a reply praising the work of the group on drafting the Bill. Remarks that their definition of sexism is impressive and suggests a slight alteration. Refers to her library of books on sexism and the women's movement in general and remarks that the group is welcome to use the books (5 February 1981, 1p).
- Letter from Peggy Cruickshank, Association for the Welfare of Children in Hospital (Ireland), 5 Auburn Road, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin to GH thanking her for her support and the recent

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- speech she gave (24 February 1981, 1p).
- Letter from Dr Mary Cullen, Department of History, St Patrick's College, Maynooth, Kildare to GH congratulating her on the policy document on women (8 April 1981, 1p).
 - Letter from Madlin Curran, 38 Rowan House, Sussex Road, Dublin 4 to GH taking issue with a statement made by GH on radio concerning the granting of legal status to the wives and mothers of Ireland. Remarks that the statement has left her in '... total shock.' Continues 'Have you ever heard of the single woman? Quite a number of whom are obliged to give up well paid jobs to care for sick and ageing parents ... Is there no legislation for these? ... I appreciate that this would not be the trendiest of causes for the first ever spokeswoman on women's affairs in Ireland but surely a most deserving one.' (30 March 1981, 1p).
 - Copy of a reply from GH enclosing a document that discusses the role of single women as part of the workforce and those that care for elderly relatives (6 April 1981, 1p).

P179/113 20 May 1980–30 January 1982

29pp

Senator GH—Correspondence File—'D'

Includes:

- Letter from Adele Darlington, President, Ireland-Israel Friendship League inviting GH to meet Benjamin Jaffe. Remarks that Mr Jaffe will be happy to answer any questions and encloses a copy of Mr Jaffe's *Curriculum Vitae* (20 May 1980, 2pp).
- Letter from Fintan Deere, 122 Sandyford Road, Dundrum to GH expressing an interest in reading her report on the question of women's involvement in broadcasting ([24 March 1981], 1p).
- Letter from Matt J Doolan, St Pius, Benvoirlich Estate, Bishopstown, Cork to GH referring to an anomaly in the Social Welfare system whereby a married woman in full time employment and who pays full Social Welfare is only entitled to juvenile benefit if disabled. Remarks that this is unconstitutional and is unjustifiable (12 April 1981, 1p).
- Copy of a reply agreeing wholeheartedly and remarking that this and other discriminations will have to be addressed under the EEC Directive by 1986 (24 April 1981, 1p).
- Copy of a circular letter from Molly Duffy and Patricia McCarthy, Women's Campaign for a Unified Social Welfare Code, 189 Gracepark Heights, Dublin 9 to GH seeking her support for their campaign (1 February 1982, 2pp).

P179/114 30 January 1980–30 October 1981

41pp

Senator GH—Correspondence File—‘F’

Includes:

- Letter from Peter Feeney, Editor ‘Frontline’, RTE, Dublin 4 to GH thanking her for taking part in the programme on participation in the Olympics. Remarks that it generated a lot of interest amongst viewers (30 January 1980, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH to John Fanagan, 94 Meadowmount, Churchtown, Dublin 16 thanking him for his assistance with a speech she gave in the Senate. Asks him for further assistance in preparing a speech for the Irish Computer Users Association annual dinner (13 October 1981, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH to Marian Finucane ‘Status’ 14 Merrion Row, Dublin 2 thanking her for a copy of the questionnaire circulated by the group ‘Status’. Refers to a similar questionnaire she and Mavis Arnold of the WPA (Women’s Political Association) circulated a number of years previously. Remarks that she will send the completed questionnaire back as soon as possible (11 May 1981, 1p).
- Letter from the Taoiseach Garret FitzGerald to GH confirming that the Government will introduce legislation to extend the right to vote in Dáil elections to British citizens resident in the state (14 October 1981, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH to the Taoiseach Garret FitzGerald, Government Buildings, Dublin 2 asking him to approve of the setting up of the Major Joint Committees as soon as possible and to agree to an increase in numbers serving on the Joint Committees. Adds that Senators would like to sit regularly until the end of the year and asks if the Government can ensure a regular stream of business to the Senate (16 October 1981, 1p).
- Letter from the Taoiseach Garret FitzGerald, to GH agreeing to meet with the National Women’s Talent Bank but that he would prefer to meet them in six to nine months so that he has an opportunity to prove to them that the Government are taking proactive steps (27 October 1981, 1p).
- Letter from Jennifer FitzGerald, 48 St Ives Gardens, Belfast BT9 6DN expressing her views regarding the lack of political support for abortion legislation and, in more detail, seeking support for unilateral disarmament in Europe and ‘... Irish non-co-operation at every cultural, economic and political level if it is not achieved within a very limited time period (13 July 1981, 2pp).
- Copy of a letter from GH to Tom Fitzpatrick TD, Fine Gael Spokesman on Health, Leinster House, Dublin asking him the position of the Fine Gael Party on the subject of lead content in petrol. Remarks that a Fine Gael supporter has been in touch and that it would appear that Ireland is not following the EEC legal maximum limit set in 1978. Remarks that the lady in question has contacted Dr Michael Woods, Minister for Health who was not supportive and fears that it could be an issue

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- that could catch Fine Gael off guard (5 May 1981, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH to Ms Fox, The Irish Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, 218 Carriglea, Firhouse, Co. Dublin commending the organisation for circulating a questionnaire. Remarks that the Fine Gael Party will complete the questionnaire which will reflect the Party's position on the issue (27 May 1981, 1p).

P179/115 6 February–29 September 1981

16pp

Senator GH—Correspondence File—‘G’

Includes:

- Letter from Nuala Gibbons, PRO La Leche League, 4 Bellevue Road, Glenageary, Co Dublin to GH concerning the worldwide organisation promoting breastfeeding. Outlines the work they do. Remarks that it is their hope that the recommendations stated at the joint WHO/UNICEF meeting to support women who breastfeed will be undertaken by the government (3 March 1981, 1p).
- Copy of a reply fully supporting the aims of the organisation and the steps she has taken by speaking out strongly in the Seanad calling for sufficient maternity leave to allow mothers to breast- feed their children as well as support in the workplace if they wish to continue (24 April 1981, 1p).
- Invitation from Helena Gleeson, Employment Equality Agency, Davitt House, Mespil Road, Dublin 4 to GH to attend a meeting between the heads of the Equal Opportunities Commissions Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Chairperson of the Employment Equality Agency in Dublin. Encloses copies of background details of Baroness Lockwood (Chairman of the Equal Opportunities Commission) and Mrs Margot Neill (Chairman of the Equal Opportunities Commission Northern Ireland (25 March 1981, 1p).
- Postcard from Norah Greene, 21a Wellington Lane, Dublin 4 to GH congratulating her on her election to the senate remarking ‘... of course I gave you my No. 1 vote ...’ and on her appointment to leader of the senate ‘... I feel very proud of you ...’ (22 April 1981, 1 item).

P179/116 16 October 1978–15 January 1982

55pp

Senator GH—Correspondence File—‘H’

Includes:

- Letter from Win Harrington, Limerick County Council, Clontarf Place, Limerick to GH commiserating with her over her lack of success in winning a seat in the general election. Remarks that

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she will do everything she can to help GH's campaign for a second senate term. Refers to the complete lack of women candidates contesting the election in Limerick East or Limerick West and vows that this will not happen again '... even if it means I must go again myself.' (27 June 1981, 2pp).

- Letter from the Taoiseach Charles Haughey to GH regarding a telephone problem in her home due to congestion on the telephone network in the Dublin area. Remarks that he has been in contact with the Minister and Department of Posts and Telegraphs and that he has been assured that extra capacity will be provided as soon as possible (30 March 1981, 1p).
- Letter from Nuala Hearne, 26 St Helens, Upper Mount Pleasant Avenue, Dublin 6 to GH seeking her opinion about the inability of first time buyers who are single to claim the recently introduced mortgage subsidy. Expresses the opinion that it is discrimination on the grounds of status (24 July 1981, 2pp).
- Copy of a reply expressing her regret that there is a restriction on the mortgage subsidy. Remarks that she has been in touch with the Department of the Environment to ask for an explanation (5 August 1981, 1p).
- Letter from J Hurley, Review Body on Higher Remuneration in the Public Sector, 27 Upper Fitzwilliam Street, Dublin 2 to GH acknowledging receipt of her completed questionnaire and enclosing a copy of her completed questionnaire as requested (16-26 October 1978, 11pp).

P179/117 17 July 1979–29 October 1981

39pp

Senator GH—Correspondence File—'I' (ICA, Irish Country Women's Association)

Large file of correspondence and copies of correspondence regarding representations made by the ICA to the previous and present Ministers for Agriculture to be represented on the board of ACOT (the national advisory and training body for farmers).

Includes:

- Letter from Camilla Hannon, National President of the ICA to GH providing background information to the correspondence between the ICA and the Department of Agriculture between 1979 and 1981. Remarks that her biggest disappointment as president of the ICA was failure to be appointed to the board of ACOT and that members are in a '... militant mood ...' Thanks GH for her interest (21 October 1981, 3pp).
- Copy of a letter from GH to the Taoiseach Garret FitzGerald, Government Buildings, Dublin 2 outlining the details of the ICA's communications with the Department of Agriculture about representation on the board of ACOT and remarks that the association is '... in a state of frustration and militancy after a very long period of failure to achieve this aim.' Draws his attention to the Fine Gael policy document on women and equality. Appeals to him to find a way of appointing a

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contd

- representative of the ICA to ACOT (27 October 1981, 2pp).
- Copy of a letter from GH to Alan Dukes TD, Minister for Agriculture, Agriculture House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2 concerning ICA representation on the board of ACOT. Expresses the opinion that legislative changes should be enacted as soon as possible to allow this to happen. Remarks that it would promote the government's commitment to equality and to rural women. Continues 'I believe that this is important for our relations with the biggest and most important women's organisation in the country. It has, of course, the added advantage of not costing money...' (29 October 1981, 1p).

P179/118 2 April–27 August 1981

8pp

Senator GH—Correspondence File—'J'

Includes:

- Letter from Dr Damian V Jennings, "The Lodge", Grange Road, Raheny, Dublin 5 to GH regarding the ongoing delay in cervical smear pathology results from St Luke's Hospital. Outlines in detail the pilot study undertaken in May 1981 to provide early detection of breast and cervical cancer and remarks that the study is in danger of collapse due to these delays. Appeals to GH as leader of the government party in the senate to use her influence to address this situation '... before lives are lost and tragedy occurs.' (22 August 1981, 4pp).
- Copy of a reply from GH expressing alarm and remarking that she will follow up with the Minister for Health, Eileen Desmond TD. Recognises the urgency of the situation (27 August 1981, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH to Eileen Desmond TD, Minister for Health and Social Welfare, Store Street, Dublin 1 urging her to address the scandal of the delay in St Luke's Hospital. Remarks 'Human life is at stake, women's lives are at stake—which usually involves the well-being and welfare of a whole family of children. I would be very glad indeed if you could take speedy action to investigate the problem ... so that I can confirm to Doctor Jennings that this Government is not going to ignore these problems about which we made so many promises before the General Election.' (27 August 1981, 1p).

P179/119 11 February–14 October 1981

25pp

Senator GH—Correspondence File—'K'

Includes:

- Letter from Michal Keating, Minister for State, Department of

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contd

Education to GH concerning letters sent by his predecessor in the Department of Education issuing grants towards 'major facilities' throughout the country. Remark that there was no authorisation for these letters and no money available to meet these commitments. Remarks that after exhaustive consultation with the Department of Finance and the Social Partners a new scheme will shortly be announced. Refers to the difficulty for the government dealing with the fallout from this debacle and appeals to GH to promote the new scheme whenever possible (14 October 1981, 2pp).

- Letter from Ronan Keane, St Mary's Killiney, Co Dublin to GH acknowledging her letter is which she informs him that she has decided to change her status from an independent senator to join Fine Gael. Remarks 'I have no doubt your move is a wise and timely one—the influence an independent representative can wield must always be less than one ... through a political party.' (5 April 1981, 2pp).
- Letter from Maeve O'Brien Kelly, President, Limerick Federation of Women's Organisations, Clonevin, Meelick, Nr Limerick to GH inviting her to attend a public meeting to provide members with an opportunity to discuss with candidates the issues affecting women. Remarks that the subjects up for discussion are part of a charter (enclosed, 2pp) adopted at the Status conference as a National Woman's Charter on 21 February 1981 and that Marian Finucane, editor of *Status* magazine has agreed to chair the meeting. Describes the Limerick Federation of Women's Organisations as an umbrella organisation for twenty two women's groups and clubs and is affiliated with the Council for the Status of Women ([May] 1981, 1p).

P179/120 6 February–28 October 1981

22pp

Senator GH—Correspondence File—'L'

Includes:

- Copy of a letter from GH to Mary Flaherty, Minister for State for the Family, Department of Health and Social Welfare, Custom House, Dublin 1 enquiring about the financial crisis being faced by Cherish, Women's Aid and the Rape Crisis Centre and honouring commitments made during the general election campaign (17 July 1981, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH to Gerry L'Estrange TD, Government's Whip Office, Government Buildings, Dublin 2 indicating her preferences for serving on the Joint Standing Committee on Marriage and the Joint Committee on State Sponsored Bodies (28 October 1981, 1p).
- Circular letter from Mary Liddy, Chairman, Cherish, An Association of Unmarried Parents, 2 Lower Pembroke Street, Dublin 2 appealing to her to make a monthly donation to help towards the costs of the repair to the building they occupy (31 March 1981, 1p).

P179/121 14 January–15 December 1981

31pp

Senator GH—Correspondence File—‘M’

Includes:

- Letter from Rev FX Martin, OSA, Department of Medieval History, University College Dublin to GH congratulating her on being nominated as head of the coalition group in the Seanad. Agrees that it was a ‘great loss’ that Gus Martin did not get returned (26 August 1981, 1p).
- Letter from Sylvia Meehan, Chairperson, Employment Equality Agency, Davitt House, Mespil Road, Dublin 4 to GH concerning her dismay that the Minister of State at the Department of Public Service, Mr Calleary did not, during the committee stage debate on the Protection of Employees Bill and maternity leave in the Seanad, see a role for the Employment Equality Agency. Remarks that the Minister of State at the Department of Labour, Mr Brendan Daly TD has acknowledged this omission and has assured her that the Agency will be involved in any future discussions (26 May 1981, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH to JM Murray, Office of Consumer Affairs, 13 Hume Street, Dublin 2 providing a list of names suitable to serve on the proposed Advertising Standards Authority (14 January 1981, 1p).

P179/122 9 February–27 August 1981

18pp

Senator GH—Correspondence File—‘Mc’

Includes:

- Copy of briefing notes for the campaign against lead in petrol issued by the UK campaign office, 68 Dora Road, London (Not dated, 2pp).
- Copy of a letter from Jerusha McCormack, 222 Lower Kilmacud Road, Goatstown, Dublin 14 to the Taoiseach, Dr Garrett FitzGerald, TD concerning HELP (Halt Environmental Lead Poisoning) explaining the reason the group was formed (in response to reports in Britain outlining the grave health risks to young children). Remarks that expert advice confirms conclusively that lead is extremely damaging. Refers to the EEC directive to member countries to reduce the lead content in petrol and to Ireland’s application for derogation of this directive which was granted by the EEC. Remarks that HELP regard this as ‘... an act of grave irresponsibility on the part of the Irish Government.’ Outlines in detail recent findings in Britain concerning the risks of lead content and the methods of measuring lead content. Appeals to the Taoiseach to commit to legislation to prevent leaded petrol from being imported into Ireland (29 May 1981, 3pp).

P179/123 27 January–21 October 1981

18pp

Senator GH—Correspondence File—‘N’

- Letter from J Nolan, President, Institute of Advertising Practitioners in Ireland, 35 Upper Fitzwilliam Street, Dublin 2 to GH concerning guidelines drawn up by the Canadian Advertising Advisory Board concerning women in advertising. Remarks that these guidelines may be useful in preparing a similar document in Ireland (27 January 1981, 1p).
- Letter from Seán Nugent, 61 Chalfont Avenue, Malahide, Co Dublin to GH expressing grave reservations about the decision to raise the school entry age. Outlines the concerns he has about this decision and the affect it will have on children, in particular children from disadvantaged backgrounds. Appeals to GH to use her influence to have the decision deferred until a viable plan to establish state sponsored pre-school education is put in place (18 October 1981, 5pp).
- Copy of a letter from GH to John Boland TD, Minister for Education, Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 referring to the multitude of communications she has received regarding the Department of Education’s decision to raise the school entry age. Remarks that she is finding it increasingly difficult to defend the decision to her constituents, special interest groups and the wider public who are completely opposed to it (21 October 1981, 1p).

P179/124 6 February 1981–15 March 1982

41p

Senator GH—Correspondence File—‘O’

Includes:

- Copy of a circular letter from Anne O’Donnell, Administrator, Dublin Rape Crisis Centre concerning the grant received from the Eastern Health Board remarking that they are ‘very unhappy’ with the amount. States that the grant does not ‘... reflect a genuine effort at supporting this service.’ Encloses a copy of the income and expenditure account July 1979 to 31 December 1980, 4pp, financial statements July 1977 to 31 December 1980, 4pp and the proposal submitted by the Rape Crisis Centre for a revised budget for 1981, 3pp (13 August 1981, 1p).
- Copy of a reply saying that she has made strong representations to Garrett FitzGerald on behalf of the Rape Crisis Centre (20 August 1981, 1p).
- Letter from Breda O’Malley, General Secretary, ICA (Irish Countrywomen’s Association, 58 Merrion Road, Dublin 4 to GH congratulating her on her election to Seanad Éireann and expressing their satisfaction that there are more women senators (18 August 1981, 1p).

P179/125 5 February–8 September 1981

15pp

Senator GH—Correspondence File—‘P’

Includes:

- Letter from Mary Phelan, CAP (Contraception Action Programme), 3 Belvedere Place, Dublin 1 to GH thanking her for her interest in CAP. Outlines their primary demands. Remarks that their aim is to have the Health and Family Planning Bill, 1979 repealed describing the legislation as ‘... restrictive hypocrisy ...’ Encloses copies of their literature (5 February 1981, 4pp).
- Letter from Helen Plover, 163 Rathgar Road, Rathgar, Dublin 6 to GH concerning the Government Housing Grant Scheme describing it as discriminatory against the single PAYE (Pay As You Earn) worker. Remarks that she is aware that GH opposes any form of discrimination and that she would be interested to hear her views (27 July 1981, 2pp).
- Copy of a reply from GH explaining that the omission was brought about by the inability of young married couples affording their first home and that the decision was a very difficult one for the government. Remarks that she has been in touch with the Department of the Environment and will write again (6 August 1981, 1p).
- Letter from Sr Mary Olivia Plunkett, Convent of Mercy, Mount St Michael, Rosscarbery, Co Cork to GH appealing on behalf of the mothers and wives of Ireland that some recognition be given to them and their rights, in particular joint ownership of their homes (3 March 1981, 4pp).

P179/126 12 September–6 October 1981

3pp

Senator GH—Correspondence File—‘Q’

Includes:

- Invitation from Michael J Quinn, Auditor of the Law Society, University College Dublin to GH asking her to address a debate on the motion ‘That this house calls for the introduction of divorce in Ireland.’ (12 September 1981, 1p).

P179/127 6 March–14 October 1981

14pp

Senator GH—Correspondence File—‘R’

Includes:

- Letter from John F Ryan, General Secretary, Irish Gay Rights Movement to GH explaining that they are undertaking a survey

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of members of the Oireachtas to obtain their views on homosexuality and the reform of legislation. Asks if she would be willing to meet with representatives of the Irish Gay Rights Movement (9 March 1981, 1p).

- Copy of a reply from GH expressing her willingness to a meeting (16 March 1981, 1p)

P179/128 9 January–26 October 1981

24pp

Senator GH—Correspondence File—‘S’

Includes:

- Letter from GH to Yvonne Scannell 1 rear Palmerston Road, Dublin 6 asking her for assistance in composing a letter to Win Harrington (9 January 1981, 1p).
- Reply from Yvonne Scannell, School of Law, Trinity College Dublin enclosing the draft of a letter to Win Harrington concerning the registering of ‘illegitimate’ children, notes concerning this issue and a draft question for the Minister for Health on this issue (22 February 1981, 7pp).
- Copy of a letter from GH to Win Harrington, Clontarf Place, Limerick excusing her delay in writing back concerning her query on the registering of parenthood of illegitimate children. Remarks that the law is ‘cumbersome’ by necessity as it takes into consideration rights such as succession and duty to maintain amongst others. Refers to Win Harrington’s specific concerns about the children of second marriages and remarks that it would be ‘... illegal to register the children of a second church “marriage” as legitimate.’ Continues ‘In fact, all of the difficulties about registration which you describe are by-products of the unavailability of divorce.’ (27 February 1981, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH to Yvonne Scannell thanking her for her notes on the death penalty but remarks that unfortunately they arrived after she had given her speech. Refers to an idea of hers concerning Senate reform and the possibility of establishing a forum for public enquiry to look in to areas of public concern. Remarks that she would like to investigate the topic of the environment. Asks if there is an area of public interest that would lend itself to this topic and benefit from an enquiry by senators and experts in the subject (21 October 1981, 1p).
- Reply from Yvonne Scannell enclosing an ‘idea’ on environmental matters that could be suitable for this forum, in particular the current state of environmental legislation and the problems surrounding the lack of enforcement. Refers also to pollution and how this could be reduced. Outlines six suggestions on how such a forum could be established and the terms under which it could operate (26 October 1981, 4pp).

P179/129 11 February–2 October 1981

55pp

Senator GH—Correspondence File—‘U, V, W’

Includes:

- Letter from George Underwood, 14 Dawson Court, Cross Avenue, Blackrock, Co Dublin to GH congratulating her on her speech in the senate. Praises her ‘... clear and unequivocal statements of principles ...’ (9 October 1981, 1p).
- Copy of a reply from GH expressing her gratitude and encouraging him to support the ‘... movement for change ...’ by writing to the national press (13 October 1981, 1p).
- Letter from Walter Walsh, FLAC, (Free Legal Advice Centres) to GH enclosing a copy of *FLAC File*, the Free Legal Advice Centres magazine. Encourages her to subscribe to the magazine (14 April 1981, 26pp).
- Copy of a speech given by GH, Fine Gael Spokesperson on Women’s Affairs, at a public meeting of the Childminder’s Union (3 March 1981, 1p).
- Letter from Theresa Barnett, Dublin Branch, Child Minders Union, c/o 197 Upper Kilmacud Road, Stillorgan, Co. Dublin to GH inviting her to speak at the launch of the Dublin Branch of the Union. Encloses literature about the Union including the aims of the Childminder’s Union, the Childminder’s Union manifesto and the demands of the Childminder’s Union for basic wages to be paid (30 March 1981, 11pp).

3.3 Fine Gael

3.3.1 Party Policy 1979–87

P179/130 19 February 1979–November 1980; December 1985

295pp

General Policy

File of notes, drafts of policy, published documents concerning policy, commentary relating to the development of policies on a range of issues developed by the Fine Gael Party.

Includes:

- Document outlining Fine Gael’s policy on future relations with Northern Ireland. The statement aims to ‘... suggest the kind of shape a political association of North and South might take; but it is also the first to argue cogently why such a relationship would be in the interest of the North as well as the South.’ Acknowledges that the document will not change the political landscape in the short term but expresses the hope that the views expressed ‘... will relieve the unreasoning but sincere fears of many unionists; that it will make negotiations for an internal solution to devolution with power-sharing in Northern Ireland itself easier; and that it will encourage many

unionists in Northern Ireland to start thinking seriously about the objective merits of a different relationship between North and South ...' (19 February 1979, 43pp).

- Notes by GH taken during a presentation by Brendan Walsh on the subject of taxation and a comparison between Irish taxation and taxation within the EEC (24 November 1979, 7pp).
- Published policy document issued by Fine Gael entitled 'Action Programme for Education in the 1980s'. (November 1980, 38pp).
- Notes prepared by GH of her suggestions for short term policy development (Not dated, 2pp).
- Copy of a draft of a policy document prepared by Garret FitzGerald. A note from Dan Egan, Youth Officer, Fine Gael attached to the document refers to it as 'Garret's "magnus opus"'. The document is heavily corrected and annotated but are essentially a presentation of policies for the 1980s. Identifies the problems facing Ireland as it approaches a new decade. Remarks that the policies are based on a set of principles and acknowledges that the party will only promise what it can deliver on. Outlines priorities and discusses the availability of resources. Refers to reform of the taxation system, the development of sound economic policy, the creation of jobs, industrial relations and the urgent need to address poverty in Ireland (Not dated, 18pp).
- Copy of points of a draft energy policy developed by John Colgan (Not dated, 2pp).
- Copy of headlines of a draft policy document on transport developed by Fergus O'Gorman (Not dated, 3pp).
- Copy of comments on taxation originating from Alexis [Fitzgerald's] office (Not dated, 8pp).
- Copy of a statement issued by Fine Gael concerning the appointment of a spokesperson (GH) on arts and culture to the Front Bench. Remarks that Fine Gael is the only party to have made such an appointment. Outlines the policies Fine Gael intends to implement in order to '...re-vitalise the whole range of institutions and organisations dealing with these areas.' (Not dated, 4pp)
- Copy of a discussion document entitled 'Working in Harmony' issued by the Central Policy Committee. Some sections are missing and this is noted on the cover. Heavily annotated (8 January 1980, 17pp).
- Copy of a draft of an untitled document by Garret FitzGerald identifying the challenges facing Irish society now and over the next decade. Indicates that the document is not intended for publication but more a document for circulation within the Fine Gael party to open up discussion. Acknowledges that inevitably some part/parts of the document may be published and recognises that the document could be leaked. Seeks written submissions from other party members commenting on the text and expresses the desire to form a small group to consider the document further. Outlines the different aspects he would like the group to explore (Not dated, 61pp).
- Submission by John Bruton commenting on the document

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- prepared by Garret FitzGerald (Not dated, 7pp).
- Fine Gael policy document entitled 'Action Programme for Education in the 80s'. Includes a foreword by Edward A Collins TD, Fine Gael spokesman on education (November 1980, 38pp).
 - Copy of a document outlining a national youth policy entitled 'In Partnership with Youth'. Includes a foreword by George Birmingham, TD Minister of State. The document was laid before both house of the Oireachtas in December 1985 (December 1985, 63pp).

P179/131 20 December 1979–[May 1981]

106pp

Women

Notes, copies of statements, draft policy documents, copy of a press release concerning the Fine Gael party's policy on women and gender equality.

Includes:

- Copy of a list of constituencies where there is a good or strong representation by women. Identifies areas where there is little or no representation (Not dated, 2pp).
- Copy of a draft document on a proposed policy on women by Fine Gael written by Phil Moore (Not dated, 6pp).
- Drafts and copy of a Fine Gael policy document on women entitled 'National Partnership through Equality'. Annotated ([1980], 52pp).
- Copy of a document by GH entitled 'A Fresh Start for Irish Women'. (10 April 1981, 6pp).
- Copies of a [draft] policy document on women prepared in advance of the 1981 general election. The document identifies two objectives—to improve the standing and security of individuals working full time in the home, to end discrimination against women and to provide opportunities for fuller participation in all aspects of Irish life. The document goes on to state that Fine Gael, in government, will either appoint a Minister of State with responsibility to oversee a five year plan to address the issues affecting the status of women or establish a commission which will identify and put into action a five year plan. Identifies and prioritises areas that require immediate action ([1981], 6pp).

P179/132 27 April 1981–31 December 1984

c600pp

Eighth Amendment—Abortion

Large file of campaign literature, copies of speeches, copies of press statements, copies of newspaper cuttings, notes,

correspondence concerning the Fianna Fáil government's proposal to amend the Constitution in relation to abortion (the Eighth Amendment of the Constitution), correspondence from GH's constituents, in support of or opposing the amendment and urging her to represent their views to the Fine Gael party initially, and, after the general election, to the Fine Gael led government. Also letters from constituents expressing their alarm and concern over the perceived lack of urgency by the Fine Gael/Labour Government to hold the referendum, as promised, before 31 March 1983.

Includes:

- Copy of the press release issued by the Campaign for Pro-Life Amendment to the Constitution (27 April 1981, 5pp).
- Copy of a statement issued by Fine Gael and Senator GH following a meeting with representatives of the Pro-Life Amendment Campaign. Dr FitzGerald stated that the Fine Gael Party fully supported the aims of the organisation that would campaign to guarantee the right to life of the unborn child. Attached is a copy of an extract from the Fine Gael election programme concerning health. A highlighted piece of text states 'Fine Gael is unalterably opposed to the legalisation of abortion and in Government will initiate a referendum to guarantee the right to life of the unborn child.' (30 April & 1 June 1981, 2pp).
- Copy of a letter from Dr Julia Vaughan, Pro-Life Amendment Campaign to Dr Garret FitzGerald TD, Dáil Eireann, Leinster House, Dublin 2 expressing the Campaign's appreciation for the meeting. Welcomes Fine Gael's commitment in supporting the proposal for a constitutional amendment and the guarantee to the right to life of the unborn child. Acknowledges Fine Gael's commitment to this in its election programme (3 May 1981, 1p).
- Copy of the advice of the Attorney-General of Ireland, Peter D Sutherland SC on the Proposed Amendment to the Constitution ([August] 1981, 33pp).
- Copy of a press release from the Anti-Amendment Campaign announcing the launch of their campaign. Includes a list of sponsors (2 June 1982, 6pp).
- Letter from Marjorie Cunnaim Honorary Secretary, SPUC (Society for the Protection of Unborn Children), Arklow Branch to Deputy GH, TD inviting her to attend a public meeting to discuss the amendment. A note of the letter in GH's handwriting indicates that she was unable to attend the meeting (8 September 1982, 1p).
- Copy of Garret FitzGerald's suggestion for a portion of the wording of the constitutional amendment (October 1982, 1p).
- Letter from Marjorie Cunnaim Honorary Secretary, SPUC (Society for the Protection of Unborn Children), Arklow Branch to Deputy GH, TD expressing disappointment that GH could not attend the recent public meeting. Outlines a number of issues of concern to SPUC including present legislation that does not give sufficient protection to the foetus, the increasing signs that Fine Gael is being pressurised to change the position of the party and is '... being intimidated into making a

U-turn ... to allow the people of Ireland to decide this issue by referendum.' Concludes 'As your constituents, we ask you in all earnestness to please support the call for a referendum so that we can ensure that abortion is never permitted in this country.' (13 October 1982, 2pp).

- Copy of a press statement issued by Fine Gael welcoming the form of the Amendment to the Constitution proposed by the Government. Announces that the Fine Gael Party has decided to support the Amendment (3 November 1982, 1p).
- Copy of an extract from the RTE television programme 'Today Tonight' of an interview by Brian Farrell with Garret FitzGerald questioning him on the decision by the Fine Gael party to support the Amendment proposed by the Government (4 November 1982, 2pp).
- Copy of a draft of the second stage speech regarding the Eighth Amendment of the Constitution Bill (9 February 1983, 18pp).
- Copy of a statement on the amendment by the Dean of St Patrick's, The Very Reverend Victor Griffin (14 February 1983, 3pp).
- Letter from Barry Desmond, Minister for Health to GH, Minister for Education referring her to an article published in the *Guardian* newspaper (copy attached, 21 March 1983, 1p). Observes that there is a parallel situation between Ireland and the British situation where the DPP is to decide on the prosecution of a pregnancy advisory service for supplying the morning after pill. Remarks that he is trying to obtain further information and will keep her informed (22 March 1983, 1p).
- Letter from Marjorie Cunniam, Honorary Secretary SPUC, Arklow Branch to GH, Minister for Education expressing the feelings of the Arklow Branch over the failure of the Taoiseach, Garret FitzGerald, to deliver on his pre-election promise to hold the referendum. Remarks 'Even following the rejection of the original wording by Peter Sutherland, we were prepared to give Michael Noonan some credence in February when he stated he wished to eliminate ambiguities ... We are therefore amazed to read the negative wording put forward ... which in fact makes no mention of protecting the unborn child ... As our Wicklow representative we ask you to please reject this negative proposal ...' (26 March 1983, 1p).
- Copy of a speech on the wording of the amendment by GH, Minister for Education at St Patrick's Seminary, Kiltegan, Co. Wicklow (28 March 1983, 5pp).
- Copy of a letter sent by GH in response to correspondence received on the issue of the amendment. Defends the Fine Gael Party's wording describing it as a '... safe, simple and non-sectarian way of achieving security for the present law against abortion'. Remarks that the form of wording outlined by the previous government could have led to legal, medical and religious problems. Remarks 'I feel that this wording completely fulfils the commitment given by our Party to the Pro-Amendment Group and should satisfy all reasonable and responsible people.' Concludes 'I feel that a vote against the new wording may be a vote which will drastically alter present

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practice, divide the community and endanger women's lives.' (April 1983, 1p).

- Copy of a personal statement by GH, Minister for Education welcoming the poll results showing a growing trend towards supporting the proposed Constitutional Amendment (3 August 1983, 1p).
- Copy of a letter from GH, Minister for Education to The Editor, *The Wicklow People* concerning the reaction following her decision to go public about her opposition to the wording of the proposed Amendment. Defends her position and emphasises her opposition to abortion and remarks that she has been consistent about her opinion. Remarks that she is also opposed to '... putting anything in the constitution which is not crystal clear and beyond ambiguity.' Concludes 'When I vote "no" I vote for a mature Ireland, sure of its priorities. I vote for life, against abortion and hope that all of us, after 7th September, will devote care and attention to those women who make such lonely decisions. They and their children are the ones who really matter.' (12 August 1983, 1p).
- Amended draft and copy of a statement by GH outlining her position concerning the proposed Amendment for publication in the *Irish Times* (13 & 17 August 1983, 3pp).
- Draft and copies of a statement by GH, Minister for Education at the Young Fine Gael meeting on the Eighth Amendment to the Constitution. Annotated (31 August 1983, 19pp).
- Draft and copy of a statement by GH, Minister for Education in Wicklow Town concerning the Eighth Amendment to the Constitution (1 September 1983, 6pp).

3.3.2 Party Material 1981-83

P179/133 28-29 March 1981

47pp

Ard Fheis—1981

Copy of speeches, copy of the Clár (agenda) of the Fine Gael Party Árd Fheis held two months before the general election.

Includes:

- Copy of a speech delivered by Garret FitzGerald, President of Fine Gael at the Árd Fheis. Refers to the opportunity for Fine Gael to gain power in the anticipated general election remarking that '... a great victory is within our grasp ... Never have we been stronger, more united or more determined ... It will be a resounding victory, whenever Fianna Fáil have the guts to take us on.' Topics covered in the speech include the economy, inflation, employment, industrial relations, industry and tourism, agriculture, borrowing, taxation, a just society, women, foreign affairs, youth matters, political appointments, heritage, Northern Ireland (28 March 1981, 26pp).

214pp

Public Relations

Dissociated file of notes, drafts of statements and speeches, press releases, material relating to the image and the promotion of Fine Gael's image, policies and message to the public. The subject matter covers a broad range of topics that reflect the enormous challenges faced by Ireland in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Some material relates to the run up to the general elections in 1981 and 1982. In general the file relates to the work of the strategy committee chaired by Derry Hussey during this period.

Includes:

- Copy of a document identifying the problems faced by the Fine Gael/Labour Coalition government and recommendations on how to address this (Not dated, 6pp).
- Draft of a letter sent by the Taoiseach to Fine Gael branches reporting on the first month in office as a coalition partner with Labour. Refers to the serious problems that the coalition government has inherited including a budget deficit, growing unemployment, Northern Ireland. Appeals for the support of the branches and thanks them for their hard work. Annotated ([December 1982, 4pp).
- Draft of a policy document specifically targeted at the issues and challenges facing the country in the 1980s. Annotated ([1980], 11pp).
- Copy of a speech on Northern Ireland by Garret FitzGerald speaking at a Dublin South East Constituency meeting held in the Shelbourne Hotel. Annotated (18 November 1982, 9pp).
- Letter from Bruce Arnold, Rosney House, Albert Road, Glenageary, Co Dublin to GH, Leinster House, Merrion Square, Dublin 2 referring to an 'unofficial veto' in place since 1973 amongst the political correspondents in Leinster House preventing his attendance at briefings with the Taoiseach and government ministers. Remarks that on certain occasions this has been advantageous and declares that he has found other means by which he can carry out his work 'If anything, and without wishing to appear arrogant, the likelihood is that the sufferers have been successive administrations. But it is unprofessional, irritating and mutually counter-productive.' Encloses a copy of a letter (4 July 1983, 2pp) he has sent to Peter Prendergast, Government Press Secretary expressing his anger over any lack of progress relating to this issue and the effect that this is having on his ability to carry out his work as a journalist (4 July 1983, 1p).
- Copy of a memorandum outlining the problems which exist in the management of the public's perception of the Taoiseach and the government and measures which should be taken to control this perception. In particular it was noted that appropriate media training should be undertaken and that the appointment of an individual to oversee and co-ordinate communication both within and outside the party should be made. Emphasises the importance of projecting calmness and

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efficiency in managing the business of government (9 May 1983, 4pp).

- Annotated draft of the Taoiseach's speech delivered at the Fine Gael Ard Fheis (22 October 1983, 35pp).

3.3.3 Election Strategy 1981-89

P179/135 1981-1987

223pp

General Elections

File of manifestos, policy documents, programmes for government created by Fine Gael for the general elections held in the 1980s (1981, 1982 and 1987).

Includes:

- Copy of a document outlining the policy commitments in the Fine Gael/Labour coalition programme for government ([June 1981], 2pp).
- Copy of the programme for government 1981-1986. Annotated (28 June 1981, 50pp).
- Draft and copy of a policy document entitled 'Jobs in the Eighties' (October 1982, 97pp).
- Election manifesto produced for the 1987 general election campaign entitled 'Breaking out of the Vicious Circle'. (February 1987, 27pp).

P179/136 [June 1981]-14 June 1983

174pp

Strategy Committee

Notes, correspondence, memoranda, reports, copies of agendas, copies of minutes relating primarily to the Fine Gael Strategy Committee, chaired by Derry Hussey. The committee existed in a semi-formal way to formulate strategy for elections and the government and to advise the Taoiseach. Some of the minutes are from the so-called 'Tuesday morning meetings' held regularly after the November 1982 general election and for the most part consisted of the same personnel as the Strategy Committee. Mention is made in some minutes about the re-convening of the strategy committee as the need arose.

Includes:

- Copy of a review of the role and effectiveness of the strategy committee during the June 1981 election. Refers to the objective of the committee and the areas of activity identified by the committee as requiring attention. Remarks that in broad terms the objectives were met by the strategy committee borne out by the performance of the party in the election. But identifies areas that were weaker and that require careful

consideration, namely the performance of sub committees and public relations, liaising with the parliamentary party, adequate administrative support, speech writing and the preparation of candidates for interacting with the media. Identifies areas not addressed by the strategy committee but requiring attention. Advises that the strategy committee should remain in existence and that it 'would seem desirable particularly in the present circumstances that the strategy committee be continually in a state of readiness to fight an election.' (June 1981, 3pp).

- Notes and membership of the various sub-committees to feed into the strategy committee namely speech writing, organisation, finance/trustees, PR. Annotated ([June 1981], 11pp).
- Letter from John [], 94 Meadowmount, Churchtown, Dublin 16 to Derry Hussey discussing topics for the strategy committee to consider. Expresses the view that a 'vigilant eye' should kept on Charles Haughey and his 'groupies' pressurising them to make decisions concerning the solvency of the country. Remarks that focus should also be applied to Fine Gael and to party strategy and policy. Refers to the next general election and lists a number of areas that the party should focus on. Emphasises the importance of strategy and the need for organisation in the constituencies. Advises a 'ruthless' approach. Remarks that Garret FitzGerald and the Parliamentary Party also need to focus on their own performance and suggests a number of areas to be addressed (17 March 1982, 4pp).
- Copy of an interim report from the Constituency Review Committee ([18 April 1982], 14pp).
- Copy of a report on the organisation in the Dublin constituencies in order to identify areas that need attention, in particular the identification and selection of suitable local election candidates. Concludes 'Dublin is not in as good a shape as the number of seats obtained would lead one to believe.' Annotated (January 1983, 3pp).
- Copy of minutes of a committee meeting discussing communication within Fine Gael and the importance of keeping in close contact with the Fine Gael backbenchers to avoid possible alienation (10 January 1983, 4pp).
- Copy of a report prepared by the Election Preparation Committee chaired by Frank Flannery. Annotated (21 January 1983, 7pp).
- Letter from Finbarr Fitzpatrick, General Secretary/National Organiser, Fine Gael, 51 Upper Mount Street, Dublin 2 to Derry Hussey, 29 Temple Road, Dublin 6 concerning a report (enclosed, 25 January 1983, 2pp) he has written on the general election held in November 1982. Congratulates Derry Hussey on his chairmanship '... of all the sessions prior to and during the election.' Adds '(Your performance has been such that I would have no hesitation in recommending you as an adviser to a Minister!!)' (25 January 1983, 1p).
- Copy of minutes of a strategy committee meeting held in Government Buildings discussing recent revelations about

phone tapping by the previous government (Fianna Fáil, led by Charles Haughey TD) of the telephones of two journalists, Geraldine Kennedy and Bruce Arnold and the timing of the Taoiseach's (Garret FitzGerald) State of the Nation broadcast in advance of the budget. Agreement, despite some misgivings, that the broadcast should go ahead. Discussion regarding meetings between the Taoiseach and Ministers of State and the production of a question and answer booklet on the budget (25 January 1983, 3pp).

- Copy of minutes of a strategy committee meeting held in Government Buildings. Refers to the decision to postpone the State of the Nation broadcast and discussions concerning the upcoming budget (1 February 1983, 2pp).
- Copy of minutes of a strategy committee meeting discussing the budget, pay talks, the Constitutional Amendment on abortion (the Eighth Amendment), the specific requirements expected by the Taoiseach from the strategy committee (22 February 1983, 3pp).
- Copy of minutes of a strategy committee meeting held in Fine Gael HQ, Upper Mount Street summarising the points and views expressed at the meeting. Subjects that were discussed included the effectiveness of the strategy committee, communication within and outside the party, the continuance of the 'Tuesday morning' meetings, the formation of a speech writing team, advertising, the public perception of the government, leadership, the use of special advisors to Ministers, the role of the Civil Service and whether it was working effectively for the government or the government had become '... the willing servants of bureaucracy ...', formulation of a strategy to deal with the repercussions from the budget, the jobs crisis (24 February 1983, 5pp).
- Copy of a report prepared by Derry Hussey, Chairman of the strategy committee reviewing the November 1982 general election campaign. Provides an overall summary and general comments on the performance of the various sub-committees and what can be learned for future elections. Highlights and praises the performance of Finbar FitzPatrick who took on the responsibility for organising the constituencies and conventions and discipline in general. Also mentions Seán O'Leary in his role as Director of Elections. Concludes 'Like any organisation, Fine Gael will not stand still. It will either improve or dis-improve. There is no doubt that at the end of the November campaign the Party and its organisation was continuing to improve ... I feel that the Strategy Committee, or some other grouping, should be charged with examining the reports arising from the last Election and listing action which arises out of them, and that this be put in hand straight away.' (March 1983, 4pp).
- Letter from Seán O'Leary, Director of Elections for Fine Gael to Derry Hussey, Beechill, Clonskeagh, Dublin 4 acknowledging and thanking him for the report. Suggests that the point made on page 3 of the report concerning the element of an 'own goal' and the unfortunate handling of the 'Joint Security Force' suggestion be expanded. Remarks 'The production by Jim

Mitchell of a policy document on the security, at short notice in the middle of the election campaign and its presentation at the news conference contributed substantially to the material available to our opponents. It is suggested that no such departure from normal practice should be accepted in the future and all documents which contain even the possibility of controversy should be cleared in advance ...' (20 April 1983, 1p).

- Letter from Garret FitzGerald, Taoiseach to Derry Hussey 29 Temple Road, Dublin 6 inviting him to his office to join him for a drink so that he can personally thank Derry Hussey for his contribution to the party and the country during the two recent general elections. Expresses also his appreciation for his role in raising finance for the party and his own personal financial contribution. Remarks 'I am confident that the Government that you helped to elect will last the full period, and that we will be able during that time, however painfully, to get our economy into good shape again, while introducing many radical and overdue reforms into our system of government and financial control ...' (25 March 1983, 1p).
- Copy of minutes of a strategy committee meeting discussing the outcome of the State of the Nation address. Agreement that although the address was good it was not 'memorable—its impact being transitory.' Refers to Alan Dukes and his recent television appearance concerning the devaluation of the Irish £ and agreement that much of what he said was above the ordinary listener (29 March 1983, 1p).
- Copy of minutes of a strategy committee meeting discussing the medium to long term image of the government. Refers to the public perception of the government and that the high expectations by members of the public were not being met. Acknowledges the difficulty in presenting the government's message referring to the hostile attitude in the media and some difficult issues on the horizon, namely the Constitutional Amendment. Refers to the image of the Taoiseach Garret FitzGerald and the damage to his reputation in the first coalition government 1981–82. Identifies the areas of reforming legislation and pay talks as challenging for the government and the importance of public perception concerning these issues. Refers to comments by the Taoiseach 'He (Garret FitzGerald) drew the attention ... to the fact that Worker's Party activists have been concentrating on key areas of trade unions, the revenue commissioners and the media since 1960s. This was now paying off ... The Taoiseach stressed we had a real problem with the threat to democracy. It would be a considerable achievement if we could prove that funds were being supplied from outside the country for this purpose.' Refers to four main problems identified by the Taoiseach and requiring immediate attention (3 May 1983, 4pp).
- Minutes of a committee meeting discussing a range of topics including the public perception of the government and the Taoiseach, the importance of planning ahead if the Taoiseach is to appear in a television broadcast to ensure an appropriate setting, the building up of a library of video tapes of

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appearance for use at a later date. Refers to a meeting of the Capital Branch and concerns over Civil Servants and their 'running' of the government and the perception that the government was in 'crisis management'. Further discussion on the need to provide training for Fine Gael ministers for briefings to the media and appearances on television and radio. Ongoing concern expressed by the Taoiseach regarding communication within the party. Expresses the view that the 'Committee system' was yielding results but that further efforts needed to be made (14 June 1983, 4pp).

P179/137 8 October 1981–16 June 1982

142pp

Pre and Post February 1982 General Election

Notes, correspondence analysing the performance of the Fine Gael Party in the February 1982 general election and suggesting a future strategy for the party. Many of the notes are in Derry Hussey's handwriting. Husband of Gemma Hussey he was a backroom advisor to Fine Gael and a confidante of Garret FitzGerald.

Includes:

- Handwritten [notes/minutes] by Derry Hussey compiled at meetings of a [strategy committee] to advise Garret FitzGerald and the Fine Gael party on tactics, the development of policies, party organisation, the party's public image and how the party can offer a viable alternative, also tactics to be employed in the Dáil. Topics covered include British-Irish relations, Northern Ireland, employment, financial matters, the economy. Reference to the growing instability of the Fianna Fáil government and the possibility of a general election. Refers also to the time pressure on Garret FitzGerald and how this could be alleviated (11 October 1981, 1p). Emphasis on the organisation of the party, clear definitions of roles and functions of the officers of the party, the need to appoint a Honorary Treasurer and a National Secretary and overall responsibility for ensuring that the party is ready for the next general election (1 December 1981, 1p). Notes relating to the possibility of a National Government in the run up to the 1982 general election. Sketches out various scenarios of how a government might be formed and refers to the difficulties faced by the leader of Fianna Fáil Charles Haughey and how he might secure support for his own position (21 February 1982, 1p).
- Copy of typescript notes of a strategy committee meeting and discussion arising out of the results of the general election held in February 1982. Refers to the position of the opposing parties, Labour and Fianna Fáil. Refers to speculation concerning Charles Haughey's leadership of the Fianna Fáil party remarking 'There are strong indications that Haughey's leadership will be opposed ... because of ... low popularity and

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unhappiness among the non-republican element ...' Continues 'It will also be argued that if Haughey succeeds now, they will have to fight the next Election with him as leader and this, combined with the unpalatable economic decisions which a new government will have to make, could be fatal. It may be further argued that a Haughey win could have a very adverse effect on the IR£ and undermine confidence with International Bankers.' Considers the role Fine Gael could assume in the current situation suggesting that the party could '... offer benign opposition on condition Fianna Fáil change the leadership.' But goes on to argue that this may not be in Fine Gael's best interest. Refers to various alternative options including the formation of a new party that could include members of the Labour Party and Fianna Fáil but admits this is unlikely and the possibility of a Fine Gael/Fianna Fáil coalition. Agreement that this would not be a positive step for Fine Gael. Refers to the possibility of a combination of Fine Gael and Labour along with support from the SFWP (Sinn Féin the Workers Party) and an independent. Concludes that regardless of any outcome individual Fine Gael deputies and candidates who only looked after their own self interest and the resulting loss of seats for Fine Gael are to be interviewed and that Garret FitzGerald must be present. Agreement that a new strategy for Fine Gael must be formulated to provide a credible option to the electorate at the next election ([February 1982], 3pp).

- Copy of a letter from Garret FitzGerald TD to Derry Hussey thanking him for a document relating to the reorganisation of the management and structure of the Fine Gael Party. Acknowledges that changes need to be made '... so as to enable me to operate more effectively ...' Asks to meet Derry Hussey after the Bye-Election (17 May 1982, 1p).
- Draft and copy of a document prepared by Derry Hussey concerning the reorganisation of the Fine Gael Party ([May] 1982], 10pp).
- Copy of a letter from Derry Hussey to Peter Prendergast, 50 Westbrook Road, Dublin 14 asking him would he be willing to meet with him and Peter Sutherland to formulate recommendations on organisation and structures to submit to Garret FitzGerald (1 June 1982, 1p).

P179/138 27 January–24 November 1982

54pp

1982 General Election

Notes for speeches, election campaign literature, newsletters concerning the 1982 general election campaign.

Includes:

- Copy of points for canvassers issued by Fine Gael ([January 1982], 1p).
- Copy of a list of questions and answers to aid canvassers

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- ([January 1982], 3pp).
- Copy of annotated notes for canvassers issued by FN FitzGerald (29 January 1982, 2pp).
- Copy of an address given by Garret FitzGerald at a press conference in Cork issued by the Fine Gael Press and Information Service to all constituency organisers, PROs and candidates (13 February 1982, 4pp).
- Notes for speeches issued by Senator Sean O'Leary, National Director of Elections ([1982], 1p).
- Certification of political affiliation authenticating GH's candidature on behalf of the Fine Gael Party for the constituency of Wicklow. Signed by Richie Ryan, Authorised Officer (27 January 1982, 1p).
- Draft of a speech/statement by GH announcing her decision to accept an invitation by the Fine Gael party to seek a Dáil nomination at the next general election. Explains her reasons for doing so ([1982, 1p).
- Copy of a summary of first preference votes in the constituency of Wicklow for the 24th November 1982 general election showing a comparison with the February 1982 general election ([24 November 1982], 13pp).

P179/139 November 1983–6 December 1984

153pp

1984 European Parliament Election

Campaign literature, notes, minutes of meetings, correspondence, itineraries.

Includes:

- Copy of a confidential research report undertaken by the Market Research Bureau of Ireland (MRBI) on behalf of Fine Gael concerning awareness, knowledge and reaction of the Irish electorate to the European Parliament election (23 January 1984, 63pp).
- Copy of notes for canvassers and an example of twenty questions and responses as a guide to assist them with policy queries and to emphasise the effectiveness of Fine Gael candidates in the election. Provides a list of EEC funded projects in Dublin and the four provinces (Not dated, 13pp).
- Copy of minutes of a Euro strategy committee meeting discussing the campaign, the financing of the campaign, research, advertising and media relations (28 March 1984, 3pp).
- Copy of minutes of a Euro strategy committee meeting discussing the identification of suitable candidates, campaign PR including literature and the right time to launch the campaign (10 April 1984, 2pp).
- Copy of minutes of a Euro strategy committee meeting. General discussion regarding the importance of encouraging supporters to come out and vote, that each constituency had its own concerns and these should be addressed during the

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campaign, a clear indication of what the candidates stand for. Also agreement that the campaign should focus entirely on European matters without the distraction of national or local politics. Concern raised about the enthusiasm of Party workers for the campaign and how this might be addressed, the importance of the Taoiseach's availability during the campaign. Agreement that there would be a briefing day for canvassers and that a Director of Elections should be appointed (17 April 1984, 3pp).

- Copy of minutes of a Euro strategy committee meeting. Decision that 16th May 1984 would be the launch date for the campaign. Agreement that an Assistant Director of Elections should be appointed. Discussion concerning the continuance of second preferences for Labour Party candidates with mixed views being expressed (2 May 1984, 2pp).
- Copy of minutes of a Euro strategy committee meeting. Proposal that Derry Hussey be appointed as Assistant Director of Elections (8 May 1984, 2pp).
- Draft schedule for the Taoiseach during the European Election Campaign. Annotated (8 May 1984, 1p).
- Copy of minutes of a Euro strategy committee meeting. Discussion concerning the visit of the US President Ronald Regan and how this would impact the campaign. General agreement that there would be disruption for a week. Discussion concerning party political broadcasts for the campaign. Agreement that a schedule working backwards from polling day should be drawn up (22 May 1984, 3pp).
- Copy of a speech by GH at the Bray pre-selection Fine Gael Convention held at the Wavcrest Hotel. Annotated (6 December 1984, 4pp).

P179/140 9 November 1986–3 March 1987

c230pp

Government and Pre-election Strategy

Varied file of notes, policy documents, correspondence, copies of minutes of the so-called 'Strategy Committee' relating to discussion, planning and development of Fine Gael's policy and strategy as the main coalition party in government and preparation for the general election held in February 1987. The notes are primarily in Derry Hussey's handwriting signifying his continued involvement with the Fine Gael 'backroom' team.

Includes:

- Letter from Katherine Meenan, Office of the Taoiseach to Derry Hussey, 29 Temple Road, Dublin 6 concerning the reconvening of the Fine Gael Strategy Committee. Remarks that the Taoiseach agrees, in outline, to the proposals put forward. Outlines a number of additional proposals suggested by the Taoiseach. Annotated (2 November 1983, 1p).
- Copy of a report prepared for the Taoiseach entitled 'Fine Gael Political Strategy'. The introduction to the report acknowledges

that members of the cabinet are not able to devote the time to the review and formulation of political strategy. Discusses a number of issues under the headings including, 'Assessment of Present Situation', 'Possible Political Options', 'Structures, Responsibilities and Authority'. An appendix sets down notes towards defining the objectives of the Fine Gael party (August 1985, 7pp).

- Copy of minutes of a strategy committee meeting held in Fine Gael Headquarters, Upper Mount Street. Refers to the new structures in the party to help prepare for elections and the new strategy of formulating policy from the general membership rather than from the top down. Other topics discussed included the loss of working class support, memberships and terms of reference of the various committees and how the formation and existence of these committees should be presented to the Parliamentary Party and the general membership, the duration of the general election campaign, the formation of a new political party, the Progressive Democrats (PDs) and the potential loss of seats, Fine Gael's philosophy. Concludes with a summary of decisions taken at the meeting (2 January [1986], 4pp).
- Copy of minutes of a strategy committee meeting held in the Taoiseach's office. Discussion concerning the direction of Fine Gael in the run up and during the next general election. Poses a number of questions regarding their agenda and whether or not to present themselves as a single party rather than as part of a coalition package. Discussion concerning work carried out by the Research and Advertising Committee, a report on the activities of the Candidate and Organisation Committee and a report by the Finance Committee. Continuing discussion concerning the PDs and their share of the vote (4 February 1986, 3pp).
- Copy of minutes of a strategy committee meeting held in Katherine Meenan's office. Discussion concerning the Taoiseach's personal image particularly in light of the recent cabinet re-shuffle and how to address this. Also the imminent vote on the Labour Party's Divorce Bill and how more recently elected Fine Gael TDs may vote. Reference to a confidence motion and the order of speakers. Remarks that there was a 'growing feeling' among members of the strategy committee that their recommendations were not being acted on (20 February 1986, 2pp).
- Copy of minutes of a strategy committee meeting held in the Taoiseach's office. Discussion concerning the very poor public opinion of the recent cabinet re-shuffle, the on-going struggle with the Taoiseach's image, the poor reception by the public of the budget. Concerns raised over the rate of Fine Gael defections and the forthcoming vote on the Divorce Bill (25 February 1986, 2pp).
- Draft of a document outlining Fine Gael policy (3 March 1986, 6pp).
- Copy of minutes of a strategy committee meeting held in the Department of the Taoiseach. Summarises remarks made by the Chairperson Derry Hussey regarding preparing for the

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general election and his offer to prepare a document on this theme. Suggestion by the Taoiseach that Derry Hussey be given copies of minutes of meetings of Fine Gael ministers to assist him in preparing this document (8 April 1986, 2pp).

- Draft of a document marked 'Strictly Private & Confidential' entitled 'Proposal Re Taoiseach' identifying the very poor public image of the Taoiseach and outlines, in detail, how Fine Gael must overcome this (3 May 1986, 9pp).
- Copy of a discussion document on the formulation of a communications strategy prepared by Shane Molloy (28 May 1986, 5pp).
- Draft report of the Organisation Committee covering every constituency in the country (22 July 1986, 13pp).
- Copy of a report marked 'Strictly Confidential' concerning Fine Gael's policy on employment and living standards (August 1986, 41pp).
- Copy of a document entitled 'Notes Towards a Definition of Fine Gael Strategy 1st September 1986–General Election'. The document discusses the timing of a general election, the current situation, options to consider and actions to be taken. Includes an appendix projecting possible election outcomes for the various political parties (25 August 1986, 3pp).
- Copy of a document entitled 'Towards a National Community' providing a summary of a discussion paper by the Just Society Working Group of the National Council of Fine Gael (October 1986, 4pp).
- List of members of the Strategy Committee, Derry Hussey is listed as the Chairman. Annotated (10 October 1986, 1p).
- Copy of minutes of a strategy committee meeting held in the Taoiseach's Department and a discussion concerning the grave situation facing the government and the failure of the budget leading to a general election. Discusses the budget required to run a campaign (5 November 1986, 3pp).
- Copy of minutes of a strategy committee meeting and ongoing discussion regarding the Book of Estimates and the rejection of same by the Labour Party, Fine Gael's strategy with regard to the timing of an adjournment debate. Includes a contribution by the Taoiseach on the options and sequence of events relating to the publishing of the Book of Estimates (19 November 1986, 3pp).
- Copy of a report by Finbarr Fitzpatrick, General Secretary, Fine Gael on the general election campaign (4 March 1987, 2pp).

P179/141 21 March–6 June 1989

38pp

1989 European Parliament Election

Notes, copies of report, minutes of meetings.

Includes:

- Copy of minutes of the Dublin Election Committee held in Fine

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contd

Gael HQ. Items discussed include the budget for the previous campaign in 1984 and the sum needed for the upcoming campaign, options regarding fundraising, discussion regarding the candidates and what should be emphasised during the campaign, a national launch date of 17 April for the campaign (21 March 1989, 3pp).

- Copy of an advertising and media plan for the Fine Gael Euro election campaign (6 April 1989, 7pp).
- Copy of minutes of the Dublin Election Committee held in the Dublin Euro HQ, Hume Street. Items discussed include the publicity and advertising for the campaign, the time scale of the campaign leading up to polling day, general discussion concerning the strategy for the campaign and the message to be put across to the electorate. Includes a schedule of constituency visits by the two candidates for Dublin, Mary Banotti and Chris O'Malley (18 April 1989, 3pp).
- Copy of a flow chart detailing the members and structure of the Dublin Election Committee, Derry Hussey acting as Chairman ([April] 1989, 1p).
- Draft budget for the European election campaign in Dublin ([April] 1989, 1p).
- Copy of minutes of the Dublin Election Committee held in Fine Gael HQ. Concerns raised, following an IMS poll that 'candidate identification' remained low and that there were issues concerning volunteers in Dublin South and Dun Laoghaire constituencies. Report on the campaign activities to date and a discussion concerning the media campaign (16 May 1989, 2pp).
- Copy of minutes of the Dublin Election Committee. Concerns raised about Mary Banotti remarking that she is '... not doing sufficient to sustain her profile!' Agreement that the candidates should be working together as a team (30 May 1989, 1p).

3.4 Teachta Dála

3.4.1 Wicklow Constituency 1982-86

P179/142 1982-86

5 items

Newsletters

File of newsletters circulated by GH to her Wicklow constituents. The content of the newsletters include subject matters of national importance, her own achievements in the Dáil as a TD and later as Minister for Education and Minister for Social Welfare.

c300pp

Post-election Congratulations

File of correspondence arranged chronologically of letters, notes telegrams and cards from family members, friends, community groups, fellow politicians, local businesses and public institutions congratulating GH on her election to Dáil Éireann for the Wicklow constituency.

Includes:

- Letter to Ted Russell, Deravoher, Limerick expressing her appreciation for his support and describes her feelings relating to her surprise victory 'I didn't expect to win, but I am proud of the fact that Wicklow was the only Constituency where we took a seat from Fianna Fail.' (26 February 1982, 1p).
- Letter from Senator Charles McDonald, Cathaoirleach, Seanad Éireann, Larchfield House, Ballyroan, Portlaoise, Co Laois, congratulating GH on her success. Refers to his disappointment about his results in the election. Remarks that 'a considerable amount of votes from the Protestant voters were lost on the account of the threat to their school system because of the change in the entry age.' (20 February 1982, 2pp).
- Note from Senator Jim Higgins, Devlis, Ballyhaunis, Co Mayo congratulating GH on her success and expressing his optimism for the future, (20 February 1982, 1p).
- Note from the Senator TK Whitaker, 148 Stillorgan Road, Dublin 4 congratulating GH on her victory in the election for Wicklow Constituency, (20 February 1982, 1p).
- Letter from Caroline Hussey, Department of Industrial Microbiology, Ardmore, Stillorgan Road, Dublin 4, congratulating GH on her victory. Caroline Hussey also expresses her intention to run for the Senate for the National University of Ireland Constituency, in the hope to win GH's 'vacated seat.' Remarks 'recent experiences with the governing body electorate encourage me to believe that I might eventually succeed and the sad [decrease] in the member of women in the Dáil convinces me that women must try harder than ever to stand for election whenever possible'. (23 February 1980, 2pp).
- Letter to Bernard Murphy, 7 Tuiler's Court, Niantic, Connecticut, USA from GH thanking Murphy for his subscription to her campaign. Refers to the 'hectic campaign, requiring depths of stamina which I didn't believe I had.' Continues: 'I am very tired as a result, and we are of course worried about the national result, which was most inconclusive, and leaves the country without any definite idea of Government'. GH also remarks the subscription was 'extremely welcome' and 'necessary' as they have been involved in many expenses in the preceding year (23 February 1983, 1p).
- Note from Charles E Rushing ,Charge d' Affaires ad interim Embassy of the United States of America, Dublin, Ireland with the simple message 'Hurrah!' (24 February 1982 1p)

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contd

- Note from the Taoiseach, Garret FitzGerald congratulating GH on her remarkable victory in the elections for the Wicklow Constituency (24 February 1982, 1p).
- Note from the Senator Miriam Kearney, Mount Alto Farm, Glanmire, Co Cork congratulating GH on her success in the elections (25 February, 1982, 1p).
- Card from Senator Eileen Cassidy, Broadleas, Ballymore Eustace, Co Kildare congratulating GH on her victory in the election for Wicklow Constituency, ([2 March] 1982 1p).

P179/144 February 1987

43pp

1987 General Election Campaign

Campaign literature, notes, newspaper cutting relating to Gemma Hussey's Wicklow constituency.

Includes:

- Summaries of GH's achievements as Minister for Education and Minister for Social Welfare ([February 1987], 4pp).
- Booklet issued by GH detailing the advances made in the Department of Social Welfare ([February 1987, 15pp).
- [Draft] of a letter to Phil [Moore] (a long-time associate of GH) from GH informing her, in the strictest confidence, of the imminent announcement of the general election. Lists out her requirements in order to kick start her campaign. Explains that she has her own financial backing to fund her campaign. Refers to the organisation of a telephone canvas, a coffee morning, volunteers ([January/February] 1987, 2pp).

3.4.2 Minister for Education 1982-87

P179/145 May 1982-February 1987

173pp

Reports

File of reports detailing the strategic planning for Education in Ireland.

Includes:

- Copy of a report by Joan Walshe reviewing health education, personal and social development and pastoral care programmes in use in second level schools in Ireland (May 1982, 27pp).
- Report of the Health Education Bureau Relationships Education Workshop which took place in Killarney, county Kerry (October 1982, 32pp)
- Copy of a report entitled 'Relationships Education in Ireland' by Siobhán Cluskey. The report was prepared for the Health Education Bureau, Ireland to facilitate recommendations for

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contd

the development of a suitable sex education programme in Irish schools (July 1983, 17pp).

- Copy of a progress report for the year 1985 entitled 'Programme for Action in Education 1984–1987' issued by the Department of Education (March 1986, 39pp).
- Copy of a progress report for the year 1986 entitled 'Programme for Action in Education 1984–1987' issued by the Department of Education (February 1987, 53pp).
- Accompanying the reports are copies of newspaper cuttings of editorials from the *Irish Independent* and *Irish Times* commenting, in detail, on the 'Programme for Education in Education 1984–1987' (Not dated, 5pp).

P179/146 12 May 1983–December 1985

13pp

Publicity

Letter, magazine articles.

Includes:

- Copy of a letter sent by GH to her colleagues referring to reports in the media which she describes as being of a personal nature. Remarks that the newspaper in question—*Evening Herald*—has refused to print a correction. Attaches a copy of one of the articles to her letter (12 May 1983, 2pp).
- Cover from *The Phoenix* magazine of a photograph of GH in a classroom with the headline 'Teacher's Pet'. (6 December 1985, 1 item).
- Copy of an interview with GH by Kevin Garvey published in *Filibuster* magazine (December 1985, 7pp).

P179/147 30 May 1983–15 October 1984

81pp

Ministerial Visits

Notes, draft of itineraries, copies of correspondence, statements concerning visits in Ireland by GH as Minister for Education in response to invitations issued to visit and on some occasions officiate at the opening of schools.

Includes:

- Details of GH visit to the opening of St Bridget's Vocational School in Loughrea, Co Galway (7 February–11 May 1984, 14pp).
- Copy of a speech delivered by GH, Minister for Education at the official launch of the County Galway Constituency Executive's Women's Group (11 May 1984, 4pp).
- Letter from Enda Kenny TD to GH Minister for Education advising her to accept the invitation to open Castlebar

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contd

Vocational School during her visit to Mayo in June. Describes the school as ‘... one of the finer examples of its type in the country ...’ (27 March 1984, 1p).

- Copy of a statement commenting on an address by GH at a Fine Gael meeting in Greystones welcoming the opening of the Lamipak factory in Kilcoole, county Wicklow (15 October 1984, 2pp)

September 1984–November 1986

270pp

Minister for Education—Curriculum Development

Series of publications by the Curriculum and Examinations Board.

P179/148 September 1984

39pp

Curriculum Development

‘Issues and Structures in Education. A Consultative Document.’

P179/149 February 1985

20pp

Curriculum Development

‘Assessment and Certification. A Consultative Document.’

P179/150 September 1985

51pp

Curriculum Development

‘Primary Education. A Curriculum and Examinations Board Discussion Paper’.

P179/151 September 1985

27pp

Curriculum Development

‘The Arts in Education. A Curriculum and Examinations Board Discussion Paper’.

P179/152 January 1986

48pp

Curriculum Development

‘Transition Year Programmes. Guidelines for Schools’.

P179/153 March 1986

63pp

Curriculum Development

‘In our Schools a framework for curriculum and assessment’.

P179/154 November 1986

22pp

Curriculum Development

‘Mathematics Education: Primary and Junior Cycle Post-Primary. A Curriculum and Examinations Board Discussion Paper’.

P179/155 10 November 1984–20 February 1985

226pp

Correspondence—Family Planning Bill

Correspondence received by GH as a government minister relating to the Family Planning Bill. The vast majority of the letters are from concerned citizens strenuously objecting to the Bill and asking her to oppose it in the Dáil.

Includes:

- Literature issued by the ‘Contraception Access Programme’ launching their campaign ‘Access for All’ calling on the repeal of the Family Planning Act ([1984/1985], 6pp).
- Copy of a letter from Margaret Walsh, Chairwoman, Council for the Status of Women, 64 Lower Mount Street, Dublin 2 to GH welcoming the Amendment to the Family Planning Bill and encouraging her to support it. Remarks ‘Political wrangling on this important and sensitive issue is abhorrent to the Council ...’ (11 February 1985, 1p).
- Letter from Bernadette Quinn-Moran, Roundwood Fine Gael and Peter Moran, East District PRO, ‘Teach Thall’ Tomriland, Annamoe, Co Wicklow to GH enclosing a copy of a letter sent to Godfrey Timmons TD (copy attached 15 February 1985, 1p). Remarks ‘We believe the grassroots should not be silent on occasions like these ...’ Expresses their support for a ‘...speedy and successful passage through the House.’ (15 February 1985, 1p).

P179/156 13 December 1984–November 1985

3 items (212pp)

Minister for Education—Publications

Includes:

- Copy of a book published by the Institute of Public Administration entitled *The Challenge of Change. Curriculum Development in Irish Post-Primary Schools 1970–84* by Tony Crooks and Jim McKernan. The book was presented to GH, Minister for Education by Professor John Bristow, Chairman of the Institute of Public Administration on the occasion of its publication and is signed by the authors (13 December 1984, 163pp)
- Copy of a publication entitled ‘Ages for Learning’ reflecting decisions taken by government on the development of policy concerning the age of children attending primary and post-primary schools. In English and Irish (May 1985, 19pp).
- Copy of a Green Paper publication published by the Stationery Office issued by the Minister for Education entitled ‘Partners in Education; Serving Community Needs’ (November 1985, 30pp).

P179/157 29 April 1985

21pp

Memorandum

Issued by the Department of Social Welfare and sent to the Departments of Education and Health concerning the co-ordination of education training and manpower services.

P179/158 24 May 1985

32pp

Memorandum

Issued by the Department of Education concerning the capital programme for third-level education.

P179/159 12 June 1985

6pp

Memorandum

Issued by the office of the Minister for Education concerning an Educational Opportunities Scheme to benefit people who were at least thirteen weeks on the Live Register.

P179/160 20 June 1985

30pp

Memorandum

Memorandum concerning a Green Paper on Education on proposals relating to local education structures and management structures for regional Technical College and other colleges.

P179/161 12 August 1985

152pp

Memorandum and Statistical Report

Memorandum presenting the Statistical Report from the Department of Education for the school years 1982-83. The report sets out general statistics relating to primary and post-primary education.

P179/162 18 November 1985

32pp

Memorandum

Memorandum seeking the authority of the government to prepare a Bill to establish the National Board for Curriculum and Assessment.

P179/163 31 January 1986

4pp

Memorandum

Memorandum for the government concerning the nominations to the Governing Bodies of University Colleges Cork and Galway for the period beginning 1st February 1986.

P179/164 [12 March 1986]

25pp

Report

Progress report from the Department of Education on the implementation of the White Paper on the Public Service.

P179/165 7 April 1986

4pp

Memorandum

Concerning the appointment to the Council of Trustees of the National Library of Ireland and seeking approval from the government to re-appoint Benedict Kiely to the Board.

P179/166 16 April 1986

6pp

Memorandum

Concerning the Minister for Education's intention to proceed with a study on the question of establishing a new Technological University to which NIHE Limerick and NIHE Dublin would belong.

P179/167 18 July 1986

153pp

Memorandum and Statistical Report

Memorandum presenting the Statistical Report from the Department of Education for the school years 1983-84. The report sets out general statistics relating to primary and post-primary education.

P179/168 12 August 1986

7pp

Aide Memoire

Request by the Minister for Education for the government to accept the non-capital estimates submitted by her department. Seeks a further allocation for the provision of improvements included in a list attached to the *Aide Memoire*.

P179/169 15 August 1986

21pp

Memorandum

Presenting the Annual Report (attached) on the proceedings of the National College of Art and Design.

P179/170 1 September 1986

10pp

Memorandum

Concerning the proposed appointment of Máirtín Ó Murchú as a Senior Professor in the School of Celtic Studies, Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies. Includes a copy of a *Curriculum Vitae* of Máirtín Ó Murchú in Irish.

P179/171 20 September 1986

22pp

Memorandum

Presenting the text of the Bill (attached) for the National Board for Curriculum and Assessment Bill, 1986.

P179/172 3 November 1986

20pp

Memorandum

Concerning proposed amendments to the text of the National Board for Curriculum and Assessment Bill, 1986 (attached).

P179/173 3 February 1987

66pp

Memorandum and Annual Report

Memorandum submitting to the government the Annual Report (attached) for the period 1 January 1985 to 31 December 1986 of the National Council for Educational Awards.

P179/174 January 1983–2 February 1987

1p

Memoranda

List of mostly memoranda issued by the Department of Education.

3.4.3 Minister for Social Welfare 1985–87

P179/175 25 June 1985–24 February 1986

109pp

Disability Benefit Scheme

Notes, memoranda concerning the payments made to eligible persons unable to work due to illness.

Includes:

- Aide-memoire relating to absenteeism in industry (24 June 1985, 5pp).
- Copy of a guide to the disability benefit scheme issued by the Department of Social Welfare ([6 September 1985, 15pp).
- Copy of a note for the Minister for Social Welfare setting out a description of the disability benefit scheme (31 December 1985, 9pp).
- Copy of the report of the Interdepartmental Committee on Disability Benefit Scheme (January 1986, 3pp).
- Note to the Minister concerning the disability benefit debate. Offers advice relating to aspects of the policy that could be conceded should the need arise (11 February 1986, 2pp).
- Memorandum certified as 'Urgent' concerning measures to control disability benefit expenditure (24 February 1986, 13pp).

P179/176 30 January 1986–21 January 1987

41pp

Fraud in Forestry Contracting

Notes, reports, correspondence relating to a forestry company Greenbelt Ltd and their use of contractors and non-compliance in the payment of PAYE/PRSI.

Includes:

- Copy of a letter marked 'Confidential' from Brian Hussey (brother-in-law) to GH, Minister for Social Welfare relating to the company Greenbelt Ltd. Explains that a special investigation has revealed that individuals in receipt of social welfare payments are employed by this company which he describes as a '...substantial semi-state body.' Asks if her department could follow up with the investigator (30 May 1986, 1p).
- Copy of a [report] outlining 'irregularities' in the timber industry (6 June 1986, 2pp).
- Copy of a note from GH to Michael Buckley asking him to look into the complaint made by Brian Hussey. Remarks that her brother-in-law is concerned about 'widespread fraud, even including Irish Life.' (11 July 1986, 1p).
- Copy of a note from Michael Buckley to the Minister concerning a special investigation into Greenbelt Ltd. Remarks that he is waiting for the report to see if there is enough evidence for a prosecution and if there is sufficient information

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contd

for the Revenue Commissioners to also take up an investigation (11 July 1986, 1p).

- Copy of a note from Michael Buckley to the Minister informing her that investigations into Greenbelt Ltd have resulted in papers being sent to nine people concerning irregularities with the prospect of proceedings being taken against them. Remarks that it will take time to prepare a case to ensure that there is enough evidence to bring forward legal proceedings ‘... in view of the arms-length nature of the operation and the fact that Greenbelt deny they are employers of the men ...’ (31 July 1986, 1p).
- Copy of a confidential letter from GH to John Bruton, Minister for Finance concerning the Greenbelt case. Draws his attention to the ‘Irish Life aspect’ of the case describing it as ‘most alarming’ (1 August 1986, 1p).

P179/177 16 February 1986–14 November 1986

32pp

Fraud

Notes, copies of newspaper cutting, correspondence relating to cross border dole fraud.

Includes:

- Copy of an article published in the *Sunday Independent* concerning an investigation carried out by the Department of Social Welfare which uncovered a cross border dole fraud (16 February 1986, 1p).
- Copy of an oral answer to a motion put down by Brendan McMahon concerning the issue of dole fraud as reported in the *Sunday Independent* (25 February 1986, 2pp).
- Copy of a report for the Minister commenting on an article published in the *Evening Herald* concerning weaknesses in the Social Welfare system leaving it open to abuse and fraud ([9 April 1986], 3pp).

P179/178 3 March 1986–19 February 1987

126pp

Social Welfare Bill

Mostly memoranda concerning Social Welfare legislation 1986 and 1987

Includes:

- Copy of the general scheme of a bill to implement budget provisions for social welfare ([1986], 45pp).
- Copy of appendices providing more details to the Social Welfare Act ([1986], 46pp).
- Copy of a summary of a memorandum for the government of the general scheme of the Social Welfare Bill, 1987 (19

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contd

February 1987, 15pp).

P179/179 4 March–16 December 1986

42pp

Treatment Benefits Scheme

Notes, copies of memoranda relating to the extension of the treatment benefit scheme to the spouse of insured workers.

Includes:

- Copy of a note relating to the costs involved in extending the treatment benefit scheme to spouses of insured persons (17 April 1986, 1p).
- Explanatory note of treatments covered by the scheme ([17 April 1986], 3pp).
- Copy of a letter from Helen Kehoe, Department of the Taoiseach to Marita O'Donovan, Secretary, Department of Social Welfare referring to a draft memorandum for the government on the extension to the Treatment Benefit Scheme to spouses of insured workers. Remarks that this has long been sought by the Women in the Home Group and the Council for the Status of Women (21 August 1986, 1p).
- Copy of a memorandum for government issued by the office of the Minister for Social Welfare on the extension of the Treatment Benefit Scheme to cover spouses of insured workers (29 August 1986, 22pp).

P179/180 29 May 1986

6pp

Memorandum

Copy of a memorandum seeking approval by the government to lay the report of the Commission on Social Welfare before the House of the Oireachtas and to publish the report. Outlines the contents of the report describing it as the '... first major comprehensive review of the social welfare system and related social services that has been undertaken.'

P179/181 [August] 1986

29pp

Publicity

Flyer, newsletter, speech.

Inlcudes:

- Message from the Minister for Social Welfare concerning dental and optical benefits (Not dated, 2pp).
- Newsletter issued by GH to her constituents in Wicklow in her capacity as their local TD and Government Minister for Social Welfare (Summer 1986, 4pp).
- Copy of a speech by GH delivered at the closing session of the Patrick McGill Summer School, Glenties, Co Donegal on 'Northern Ireland: The Future' (23 August 1986, 23pp).

P179/182 24 September 1986

57pp

Memoranda

Copies of memoranda issued by the Ministers for Labour and the Environment relating to the expansion of the Social Employment Scheme.

P179/183 23December 1986–7 January 1987

5pp

Hospital Charges

Notes relating to a proposal to introduce hospital charges.

Includes:

- Note from GH asking for more detail about the proposal including the need for legislation. Remarks that the government require further information as a matter of urgency (2 January 1987, 1p).

4 PHOTOGRAPHS

4.1 Personal 1978; 1983

P179/184 Not dated

1 item

Personal

Black and white photograph of GH taken with two unidentified individuals.

P179/185 June 1978; 13 April 1983

4 items

Family

Includes:

- Black and white photograph of GH taken with her three children (June 1978, 1 item).
- Black and white photograph of GH and one of her daughters taken in the kitchen of their home in Dublin (13 April 1983, 1 item).
- Black and white photograph of GH and her daughter Rachel taken in the kitchen of their home in Dublin (13 April 1983, 1 item)
- Black and white photograph of GH with her two daughters and [husband, Derry Hussey] (13 April 1983, 1 item).

4.2 Publicity 1970s–80s

P179/186 Not dated

4 items

Publicity Portraits

Black and white contact sheets of portraits of GH for publicity purposes.

P179/187 [1970s–80s]

2 items

Publicity Portraits

Includes:

- Colour and black and white photograph of the same portrait image of GH.

P179/188 [1970s–80s]

8 items

Publicity Portraits

Includes:

- Black and white head and shoulders portraits of GH.

P179/189 [Late 1980s]

1 item

Publicity Portrait

Black and white posed portrait of GH.

4.3 Political Career 1982–86

P179/190 Not dated

1 item

[Constituency]

Black and white photograph of GH sitting at her desk, possibly in her constituency office.

P179/191 [1982]

5 items

TD—Dáil Eireann

Includes:

- Black and white photograph of GH taken outside Leinster House along with two unidentified females (Not dated, 1 item).
- Black and white photograph of GH and other female TDs and/or Senators seated outside Leinster House including Monica Barnes, Nuala Fennell, Nora Owen ([1982], 1 item).
- Black and white photograph of GH and other female TDs and/or Senators standing outside Leinster House including Monica Barnes, Nuala Fennell, Nora Owen ([1982], 1 item).
- Black and white photograph of GH and an unidentified male [TD] seated outside Leinster House ([1982], 1 item).
- Black and white photograph of GH with the Taoiseach Garret FitzGerald ([1982], 1 item).

P179/192 1983

1 item

Fine Gael/Labour Coalition

Black and white photograph of the Fine Gael/Labour coalition cabinet taken in the cabinet room, Leinster House.

P179/193 1983

1 item

Fine Gael/Labour Coalition

Black and white photograph of the Fine Gael/Labour coalition cabinet receiving their seals of office from President Patrick Hillery, Áras an Uachtaráin.

P179/194 [1982–86]

9 items

Minister for Education—Undated

File of black and white and colour photographs of GH attending events in her capacity as Minister for Education.

Includes:

- Black and white photograph of GH at the launch of the Curriculum and Examinations Board. Left to right are Dr Edward Walsh, Chairman, Mr Albert O’Ceallaigh, Acting Chief Executive and Liam O Laidhin, Secretary of the Department of Education ([1982–86], 2 items).
- Colour photograph of GH speaking at the Department of Education National Apprentice Competition ([1982–86], 1 item).
- Black and white photographs of GH visiting a school, possibly a pre-school. She is photographed with a nun and pupils ([1982–86], 3 items).
- Black and white photograph of GH and the President of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Mayor of Cologne at the opening of the Treasures of Ireland Exhibition in Germany ([1982–86], 2 items).
- Black and white photograph of GH in conversation with the British Conservative Party politician Nicholas Scott ([1982–86], 1 item).

P179/195 [1982–1986]

6 items

[Portraits as Minister for Education]

Includes:

- Black and white portrait of GH as [Minister for Education] holding a pen.
- Black and white portrait of GH in a posed shot, pen in hand, reading.
- Black and white photograph of GH in a posed shot standing behind her desk and reading a newspaper.
- Black and white photograph of GH in a posed shot with a vase of flowers.
- Black and white photograph of GH in a posed shot standing beside a colleague, possibly a senior civil servant in the Department of Education looking at a document.
- Informal black and white portrait of GH.
- Black and white portrait of GH.

P179/196 [1982–86]

4 items

Minister for Education—Conference

File of black and white photographs of GH attending an unidentified conference.

Includes:

- Black and white photograph of GH as a delegate ([1982–86], 1 item).
- Black and white photographs of GH speaking at the conference ([1982–86], 3 items).

P179/197 15 April–21 June 1983

7 items

Minister for Education—Ministerial Visits/Official Functions

Letter, black and white photographs of GH's visit to Jerez, Spain. The photographs were taken in a Bodega (a winery). Also photographed is the journalist Bruce Arnold.

Includes:

- Letter from Owen Doyle, Director, Doyle Nugent Ltd, 14 Dame Street, Dublin 2 to GH, Minister for Education, Leinster House, Dublin 2 enclosing photographs from her recent trip to Jerez in Spain (21 June 1983, 1p).
- Black and white photograph of GH seated at a table in the Tio Pepe Bodega in Jerez. The journalist Bruce Arnold is seated to the right of GH (15 April 1983, 1 item).
- Black and white photograph of GH seated at a table in the Tio

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Pepe Bodega in Jerez. The journalist Bruce Arnold is seated to the right of GH. Her husband, Derry Hussey is seated at the head of the table (15 April 1983, 1 item).

- Black and white photograph of GH standing with a group in the Tio Pepe Bodega in Jerez. The journalist Bruce Arnold is standing at the extreme left of the photograph and her husband Derry Hussey is standing at the extreme right (15 April 1983, 1 item).
- Black and white photograph of GH and others, including her husband Derry Hussey tasting sherry/brandy at the Tio Pepe Bodega in Jerez, Spain (15 April 1983, 1 item).
- Black and white photograph of GH signing one of the barrels in the Tio Pepe Bodega, Jerez, Spain others photographed are the journalist Bruce Arnold and her husband Derry Hussey (15 April 1983, 1 item).
- Black and white photograph of the signed barrel in the Tio Pepe Bodega, Jerez, Spain. The inscription reads 'Irish wishes for Jerez Gemma & Derry Hussey 15/4/83' (15 April 1983, 1 item).

11 May 1983

18 items

Minister for Education—Standing Conference of European Ministers of Education

Series of black and white photographs with captions taken at Russborough House, Co Wicklow of GH and European Ministers of Education attending the 13th Session of the Standing Conference of European Ministers of Education held in Dublin.

P179/198 11 May 1983

3 items

Standing Conference of European Ministers of Education

Includes:

- Black and white photograph of GH, European Ministers of Education and Sir Alfred and Lady Beit (11 May 1983, 1 item).

P179/199 11 May 1983

2 items

Standing Conference of European Ministers of Education

Includes:

- Black and white photograph of GH, European Ministers of Education and Sir Alfred and Lady Beit (11 May 1983, 1 item).

P179/200 11 May 1983

3 items

Standing Conference of European Ministers of Education

Includes:

- Black and white photograph of GH and European Ministers of Education (11 May 1983, 1 item).

P179/201 11 May 1983

3 items

Standing Conference of European Ministers of Education

Includes:

- Black and white photograph of GH and European Ministers of Education viewing a painting in Russborough House (11 May 1983, 1 item).

P179/202 11 May 1983

2 items

Standing Conference of European Ministers of Education

Includes:

- Black and white photograph European Ministers of Education on a tour of Russborough House (11 May 1983, 1 item).

P179/203 11 May 1983

2 items

Standing Conference of European Ministers of Education

Includes:

- Black and white photograph European Ministers of Education on a tour of Russborough House (11 May 1983, 1 item).

P179/204 11 May 1983

2 items

Standing Conference of European Ministers of Education

Includes:

- Black and white photograph of GH and Sir Alfred and Lady Beit (11 May 1983, 1 item).

P179/205 11 May 1983

2 items

Standing Conference of European Ministers of Education

Includes:

- Black and white photograph of GH and Sir Alfred Beit (11 May 1983, 1 item).

P179/206 11 May 1983

2 items

Standing Conference of European Ministers of Education

Includes:

- Black and white photograph of GH and Sir Alfred Beit (11 May 1983, 1 item).

P179/207 August 1983–30 October 1984

9 items

Minister for Education—Bray Constituency Events

Black and white photographs of Gemma Hussey, Minister for Education attending events in her constituency, Bray, Co Wicklow.

Includes:

- Black and white photograph of GH presenting the Apprentice of the Year Award to Anthony Clare from Bray (August 1983, 2 items).
- Black and white photograph of GH presenting an award to Thomas McDonald, Arklow, Co Wicklow at the National Apprentice Competition (1984, 1 item).
- Black and white photograph of GH presenting an award to Patrick Dempsey, Arklow, Co Wicklow at the National Apprentice Competition (1984, 1 item).
- Black and white photograph of GH presenting prizes at the Memory Computer Competition to pupils of Loreto Convent, Bray. Left to right are Ray O'Regan, Memory Computers, Elaine O'Brien, Suzanne Allen, GH, Angela Byrne, Edel Ni Ghrainne ([1984], 2 items).
- Black and white photograph of GH visiting the Bray Knitwear Co-operation. GH is pictured at one of the machines with machinist Michael Martin (30 October 1984, 3 items).

P179/208 21 October 1983

5 items

Minister for Education—Visit of Australian Minister for Education to Ireland

Black and white photographs, captions.

Includes:

- Black and white photographs of Senator Susan Ryan, Minister for Education and Youth Affairs in the Australian Government with Nuala Fennell TD, Minister of State at the Department of the Taoiseach and Gemma Hussey TD, Minister for Education. Senator Ryan was presented with a copy of a publication on transportation links between Ireland and Australia (21 October 1983, 2 items).

P179/209 20–21 November 1984

2 items

Minister for Education—Meeting/Conference

Black and white photograph of GH and George Birmingham, Minister of State in the Department of Labour attending the second meeting of Education Ministers of the OECD member countries in Paris.

11 January 1985

9 items

Minister for Education—Young Scientist Exhibition

Series of black and white photographs with captions taken at the RDS during the Aer Lingus sponsored Young Scientist Exhibition.

P179/210 11 January 1985

3 items

Young Scientist Exhibition

Includes:

- Black and white photograph of GH, George Birmingham TD, Minister of State at the Department of Labour with Avril Sillery, John O'Neill and Eilish Barry from the Vocational School, Wicklow Town at their stand at the Young Scientist Exhibition. Also photographed is their teacher Jim Murray and Aer Lingus Hostess Sally Flanagan (11 November 1985, 3 items).

P179/211 11 January 1985

3 items

Young Scientist Exhibition

Includes:

- Black and white photograph of GH and Imelda Shortt of the Vocational School, Wicklow Town at her stand at the Young Scientist Exhibition. Also photographed are Aer Lingus Hostess Sally Ann Flanagan, Patrick Maher, Teacher and Donal F White, Assistant Chief Executive, Aer Lingus (11 January 1985, 1 item).

P179/212 11 January 1985

3 items

Young Scientist Exhibition

Includes:

- Black and white photograph of GH and Killian Fitzgerald and Larry Mooney from St Thomas Community College Bray, Co Wicklow at their stand at the Young Scientist Exhibition. Also photographed are George Birmingham TD, Minister of State at the Department of Labour and Sally Anne Flanagan, Aer Lingus Hostess (11 January 1985, 1 item).

P179/213 23 April 1985

1 item

Minister for Education—Northern Ireland

Black and white photograph of GH with pupils from Belfast who visited Dublin as part of the Co-operation North Programme.

P179/214 16 May 1985

13 items

Minister for Education—Conference

File of black and white photographs of GH attending a conference 'Ages for Learning' in Strasbourg.

Includes:

- Black and white photograph of GH shaking hands with an unidentified man at a press conference (16 May 1985, 1 item).
- Black and white photographs of GH conversing informally with other delegates attending the conference ([16 May 1985], 3 items).
- Black and white photograph of GH and other delegates

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contd

- attending the conference lunch ([16 May 1985], 1 item).
- Black and white photograph GH as an attendee at the conference ([16 May 1985], 1 item).
- Black and white photographs of GH as a speaker at the conference ([16 May 1985], 3 items).

P179/215 16 May 1985

3 items

Minister for Education—Launch/Publication

Black and white photograph of GH launching the discussion document 'Ages for Learning'. Also photographed are Declan Brennan, Secretary, Department of Education, Seán O'Mahoney, Assistant Secretary, Department of Education and Dr John Harris, Special Advisor to the Minister.

6 July 1985

Items

Minister for Education—Special Olympics

Series of photographs with captions of GH presenting medals at the European Special Olympics held in University College Dublin.

P179/216 6 July 1985

3 items

Minister for Education—Special Olympics

Includes:

- Black and white photograph of GH presenting medals to winners Peter Volker of Austria winner of the Men's 800m, Guenter Lasnk of Austria who came second and Kevin Dunks of the United Kingdom who came third (6 July 1985, 1 item).

P179/217 6 July 1985

3 items

Minister for Education—Special Olympics

Includes:

- Black and white photograph of GH congratulating Robert Tinney of Donegal winner of the Shot Put with William Spence of Ulster who came second.

P179/218 6 July 1985

2 items

Minister for Education—Special Olympics

Includes:

- Black and white photograph of GH with the winners of the Soft Ball competition (from left) Anna Pia Suma of Italy who came second, Michelle Hamilton of Ballymena from Ulster who came first and Christina La Comare of Italy who came third.

P179/219 6 July 1985

3 items

Minister for Education—Special Olympics

Includes:

- Black and white photograph of GH cheering the winners of the Soft Ball competition (from left) Anna Pia Suma of Italy who came second, Michelle Hamilton of Ballymena from Ulster who came first and Christina La Comare of Italy who came third.

P179/220 20 September 1985

2 items

Minister for Education—Conference

Black and white photograph of GH attending the Irish Studies Conference. Also photographed are (from l to r) Sir David Orr, Chairman Anglo-Irish Encounter, Sir Keith Joseph MP, Secretary of State for Education and Dr Anthony Kenny, Master, Balliol College, Oxford.

P179/221 30 September 1985

3 items

Minister for Education—Visit

Black and white photograph of GH with a group of alumni women of Boston University led by Liz Shannon, wife of the former US Ambassador to Ireland. The photograph depicts the group being guided through Leinster House by GH with Sandra Fitzpatrick and Liz Shannon at the front of the group.