**Paul Hunt’s Collected Works and 1962 Journal published for the first time**

Lost writings by an early leader of the Disabled People’s Movement released as free e-books.

Paul Hunt was one of the most important activists and thinkers of disability politics in the middle of the 20th century. He was central to disabled people’s resistance to institutionalisation in the ‘60s, and to their self-organisation in Disabled People’s Organisations (DPOs) in the ‘70s. As a founder member of the Union of the Physically Impaired Against Segregation (UPIAS) – Britain’s first politically radical, pan-impairment DPO – Hunt was one of the first people to think seriously about what it means for disability to be caused by society, and how disabled people could resist social oppression together. His ideas inspired the Independent Living Movement, the Social Model, and Disability Studies but, until now, most of his writings have been long out of print.

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of UPIAS – started by a series of letters Hunt wrote to various newspapers in 1972 – TBR Publishing are releasing two free e-books of Hunt’s previously unavailable writings. We hope that these will give disabled activists today a better understanding of our movement’s history, and of the debates and struggles that influenced our politics today.

The first of these books is a collection of Hunt’s writings from across his lifetime, based on extensive archival research. These include Hunt’s early magazine and newspaper articles on the lives of residents in long-stay hospitals and care homes, his critical writings on the big disability charities and campaigns of his day, and his never-before-published political articles for UPIAS’s private journal – which had a deep impact on the earliest years of the Disabled People’s Movement. This collection is edited by Luke Beesley, and has an extensive commentary which puts Hunt’s life and work in its historical context.

The second book is a private journal kept by Hunt in 1962 – during one of the rockiest disputes between residents and management in the Le Court Cheshire Home in Hampshire. In it, Hunt gives a first hand account of managers’ attempts to impose authoritarian rules on people living in the care home, and to punish any resident who refused to obey them. Hunt’s rich prose describes not only the human costs of living in an institution, at the mercy of staff and management’s whims, but also the steps residents took to reclaim their freedom and overturn the regime that was being forced upon them. The journal also contains Hunt’s earliest thoughts on philosophy, pacificism, and civil disobedience. This journal has been prepared for publication by Judy Hunt and Tony Baldwinson, who are both experienced historians of the disabled people’s movement.

Paper copies of the Journal are available now for the cost of postage, and a paper edition of the Collected Works will be forthcoming. To enquire about either, please email phcollected@gmail.com

Knowing the amount of copies of the Collected Works we will need to print will help us keep costs down, so if you would be interested in buying a copy in future, or would like us to support you to get your library to order one , please do get in touch as soon as possible.