

# SEI Bumper Issue



THE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER FOR NORTH SOUTHWARK AND WATERLOO

NO.16 DEC/JAN 1976/77 8p

## Sports for Hall

What's inside  
↓

### Colombo St. Centre Opens

Colombo Street Sports and Community Centre is exploding into activity. In only a few months the building, which used to be a canteen for J.Sainsburys Ltd, has sprouted Karate, boxing, badminton, Shorijee Kempo, youth clubs and the Elephant Shop selling pottery, leather goods and jewellery. Many more activities are planned.

The building is run by a steering group who represent the different activities in the centre. A properly constituted committee will soon be elected.

Members have been very busy dismantling and cleaning out the old kitchen equipment and getting the main rooms into shipshape condition by cleaning and painting some of the bad areas. This was done without public funding, but out of the group's own resources.

It will be very difficult to get every sporting activity into the building so there are plans to spread out into the open air. Southwark Council has agreed to link up the Sports Centre with the New Hatfields Play Area which has a 5 aside football pitch and tennis and netball courts marked out. The reason for this linkup is to have control of the floodlights which are shortly to be installed, plus the storing of the other equipment when the area is being used for football.

In the long term it would be good to see the area in between Hatfields and the Sports Centre, which is proposed for open space in 1978, turned into a permanent spot for Tennis, Netball and Cricket Nets and a small bowling green if needed.

Besides the sports already taking place, any new members are invited to start other activities. What about Weight Training, Gymnastics, Keep Fit, Yoga, Basketball and Volleyball? There are all plenty of small rooms in the building.

For outside activities the River Thames is right on our doorstep. Why not a fishing club?

Treasure in the Thames Club or even a canoeing club?

The local area is full of points of history - why not Orienteering around the streets?

It is up to us to make the place work. Any spare sporting equipment will be gladly accepted from a pair of boxing gloves to a table tennis bat. Have a look in your cupboards - if you know where there is sporting equipment laying around doing nothing please phone 261 1404 and ask for Ernie, Howard or Mike.



The Steering Group has applied to both Southwark and Lambeth councils and the Sports Council - but of course this takes time. Yet, members of the recreational side of the three Councils have been shown around the building and have all shown great interest. The building is practically made for this kind of activity and there is such a need for it in the local area.

The Group has applied for Charitable Status, and this has been granted, which will help keep the costs down by providing rate relief.

The demands for use of the buildings have already shown the great need for such a project.

### 1 Chemist opens but...

The long hard struggle of the Chemist Campaign, now in its 3rd year, is at last getting some results. They have managed to get J. Sainsbury Ltd to provide a chemist in one of their new shops within the Kings Reach Development in Stamford Street.



When the letting agents were first contacted, the property manager was heard to say that he is so fed up hearing about the chemist closures and the campaign that he would get a chemist there even if he had to run it himself.

May we welcome the new chemist, Mr Liberman, (he also has branches on the Aylesbury Estate and in Lambeth Walk. When Mr Liberman was contacted he said he hoped the shop will be successful because it is expensive to run a chemist shop, with a pharmacist's wages around £7m a year. Congratulations to the Chemists Group and the Cut Pensioners Group who have themselves been writing lots of letters. But this is not the end of the Campaign for this is only one chemist replacement out of the

(continued on centre pages).

Scents of Southwark p.9

Reg Goodwin interview p.6

Jubilee Plans p.5

Campbell Buildings T.A. p.4

1976 Success Stories p.6

### DHSS Public Inquiry

into 99-101 REDCROSS WAY, SE1 JAN. 11TH, PECKHAM TOWN HALL.

### Quote of the month

Speaking about the reason for the closure of the docks on Hays Wharf, a director of the company said recently:

"Hays Wharf closed down not because of property development potential but because we could no longer promise a service or at least a regular one to our customers." (Evening Standard, 12/11/76).

Tell that to the residents of Tooley Street!

## YOUR VOICE - YOUR VIEWS - YOUR NEWS

Dear SE1

I have been reading about your Elizabeth Willmot of Roupell St. SE1. I live in SE1 too, I quite agree with all she has said and I have experienced all those similar things.

I have lived in Southwark all my life and was born in Bear St. which used to be in Friar St. which is now called Webber St. I have attended St. Alphage's Church since I was a baby and although I live now in the New Kent Road, I still sing in the choir there. I am one of 12 children and we had quite a struggle to keep going, but my dear old Mum managed and she washed and ironed for us all.

I went to school at Webber St. school which when I was tiny used to be called School Board for London and my elder brothers used to pay to go to school. We had some happy times though very little money. Wages were very low and of course food was a lot cheaper then it is today.

I am now 85, I have many complaints, but I do try to keep cheerful, and I think if one can only keep oneself busy you forget the pains we have, and as I love singing that keeps me going and of course I sew and knit and read but I chiefly sing. I sing to my Old Age Pension friends and I just love it.

### "I Love London"

I love mixing with people. I am one of a very large family and I am the only one of my relations living in London. I love my London, and I like to do what I can for Southwark. All the rest of my family live all over England and America. I don't see them much but we do write to each other. I take after my father, he used to sing a lot too. When my husband was alive he was a very busy person too, and of course sang also.

I used to work in the Boot and Shoe trade and in the First World War I used to go to Woolwich Dockyard to work stitching Sam Brown belts, as you know they are Officers belts, and we often got caught in an Air Raid.

So you see I have had a busy life. We are now all preparing for Xmas, may it be a happy one.

Yours sincerely,  
Mrs Elizabeth Caroline Dorling,  
3 Varley House,  
Rockingham Estate, SE1

## WRITE

to SE1. We want to hear your news and views. Send your letters to: SE1 Community Newspaper, 12 Meycott St, SE1, or give us a ring: 928 1643.

Dear SE1

I had a fall on the 23rd Oct. 76 outside the Young Vic in the Cut over the very bad workman-toc, I quite agree with all she has said and I have experienced all those similar things. I hurt my knee, also ruined my stockings. I wrote to the Director of Civil Engineering and a Mr. Medcalf came to see me on the 31st November with the Photos of the Young Vic where I fell. Also the same week on the Friday 29th October I had another fall and had a very bad bruise on my right foot and a lump on my right hip from which I have never been able to recover from properly, so I wrote again but still nothing has been done about the paving stones.

I have also phoned the Town Hall and sent another letter, now I was with the road in the Cut being all churned up and we have no beacon lights as they have been covered up and we have nowhere at all to cross the road, so we think it's about time something was done for us people in the Cut.

It's costing me plenty of money to keep phoning these people up, but I'm still getting passed from one person to another. I think it's very disgusting the way we are being treated so perhaps you will publish this in the SE1, not only for myself but for everyone who has to do their shopping and for the people who live here.

Yours sincerely,  
Ivy Campbell (Mrs.)  
Chairwoman of the 'Cut' Pensioners Action Group  
2 Benson House  
Hatfield

Dear SE1,

Could I ask you to reprint a letter that I have recently received? This letter gave me a tremendous lift and I hope it will do the same for others in North Southwark. It was sent to me by Winifred Bloomfield of Wokingham, Berks:

"Dear Mrs Clark, I would like to express my delight in the aims of the Group to which you are the Secretary. I was unaware of its existence until my husband called in at your office in Great Guildford Street the other day. He was born in Southwark (Queen's Buildings) and haunts the place! What I would like to say is that I was the local district nurse in that area between 1945-53 and really loved it - I can't tell you how sad we have been to see the destruction. We always hoped to come back there but as your paper points out there has been a merciless reduction in the provision of accommodation for residents.

We wish you success, and feel we owe you grateful thanks."

Thank you for reprinting this, yours sincerely, Maureen Clark, Secretary NSCOG.

## Golden Oldies Mr Cahill

I can remember the Xmas trading in the Cut, and Lower Marsh, before the First World War and just after.

From 'The Ring' Blackfriars, to the 'Old Canterbury' Westminster, it was a fantastic market, and these were the days when the stall-holders used the naphtha flares, before the Blanchard, and later the electric today.

The week before Xmas they were allowed to keep their stalls out all night, in those days they never paid anything for a stall, it was first come, first serve, though, if you were a regular, you did have some claim. You would never be allowed to put your stall in the gutter before 8 a.m.

### ~mistletoe~

Stalls were banked high with fruit and vegetables, and Xmas decorations. These stalls fascinated me when I was a kid, the paper chains, the mottoes, the silver glittering string, then there were the people selling the holly and mistletoe, stalls loaded with turkeys, chickens, ducks etc. as well as the shops.

And in those days the quack doctors would be there, trying to cure every ailment known to man, my favourite was one who



used to wear a feathered head-dress and claimed to be a real Sioux Indian. He sold snake oil for rheumatism, it took me a long time to think that if he was a real Indian, I was a Chinese Eskimo.

And the good humour and the wit of the various stall holders was unbelievable, but of course those were the days of the Music Hall and you got a stall holder start one of the old songs and everybody would join in, especially if they were just coming out of the 'Peartree', 'Windmill' and the 'Olive Branch' just to mention a few of the many pubs around.

## Mrs Tubb

GETTING READY FOR CHRISTMAS

I shopped at Cater's in the New Cut SE1, so I joined the Christmas club which meant you could put a sixpence or a shilling on a card and that would make sure of getting a chicken and a piece of bacon or a turkey for Christmas. Of course, the chickens and turkeys were something special, we only used to have them on Christmas and we were all looking forward to it.

We used to buy 1lb. of fruit for the Christmas every week and then we would make our puddings and we all had to have a stir, which would bring you luck, and then boil them for 12 hours. We used to join a Sweet Club and paid a penny a share for 12 weeks, I would have 6 shares, and Thomas's in the New Cut was where you had to buy your sweets - A two pound box of chocolates for Christmas, Angels and pink mice, all in shiny coloured paper all made to hang on the tree. Of course, I had to hide them. Then I would buy two packets of papers for 1d and make some paste and the two children and myself would sit around the coal fire and make our decorations, we really liked and looked forward to having a nice Christmas. We never had any elaborate toys like they do today, but I think they had more fun with their dolls or a cheap trainset.

### "More Money Now"

Everybody today has more money and can go and buy what they want, but I do not think they had as much pleasure as we did. By the way, we used to go up the New Cut on Xmas Eve late and buy our Xmas tree for about a 6d or a shilling because the trees were no good to the sellers after Xmas and then we would dress it up, of course. Then we were all ready for Christmas day and we had to make our own pleasures.

I am 81 and when I look back over the years, there were a lot of things we miss today, in regard to making our own fun. But still, life is easier today.

## One step nearer

WATERLOO RESIDENTS STOOD UP AND CHEERED Lambeth Councillors who spoke up in favour of turning the Waterloo Draft Planning Strategy - calling for family housing - into a 'statutory' plan, enforceable by law.

This amazing scene took place at Lambeth's Council meeting on December 1st, where a strong local delegation in the Public Gallery heard Councillors Lane, Quinn, Carr, Speakman, Hammond and Alderman Everson speak in support.

20 letters had also been sent to the Chairman of the Planning Committee, and all the pressure paid off as the Council voted to send the Plan to the Secretary of State for the Environment for approval, against the wishes of senior council officials.

Little action had been taken since Lambeth Council accepted the choice of the overwhelming majority of local people one year ago. This was for substantial emphasis on housing, restraint on office development with a programme for industry and employment, intensive environmental work and support for special sections of the Community.

A similar choice was accepted

## Uncommon Views

When members of the North Southwark Community Development Group presented evidence to a House of Commons Select Committee on Planning on November 17th Mr Tim Sainsbury, one of the Sainsbury food family, ignored the evidence presented and took up valuable time querying the Group on its methods.

Mr Sainsbury is a director of the family firm and a right wing Tory MP. He criticised the Groups methods of obtaining local residents views and the viability of NSCOG's "short constitution". He argued that "there was no demand for industry in London". Maureen Clark of NSCOG refuted this as an extreme statement and added that there was not much demand for offices either.

However all of this was intended by Mr Sainsbury to divert attention away from the evidence which stressed that there is not enough time given in planning matters to public participation and that councils and developers usually reached agreement before public consultation took place.

Mr Christopher Price, one of the Labour MP's on the Subcommittee was sympathetic to this view and said afterwards, "we hardly ever have groups like the NSCOG representing working class people appearing before House of Commons Subcommittees. Usually it is establishment bodies like the British Property Federation, Town and Country Planning Association and the Council for the Preservation of Rural England."

## Homes before Offices

ed in June this year, and the proposed housing development in Coin Street shows that they intend to act on their decision.

### "best office site"

However as next May's GLC elections draw nearer, it has become clear that there's a very real possibility of the Tories winning control of the GLC - and then reverse the Labour GLC's policy.

Only a few weeks ago the Tory spokesman on GLC planning said that the South Bank was "the best office site left in Europe" and shouldn't be wasted on building houses.

It was this danger that led the Bishops Branch of the local Labour Party to put pressure on Lambeth Council to make the draft plan a 'statutory local plan' and thus a legal document much more difficult for the Tories to change.

On November 1st at the Lambeth Planning Committee, local councillor Peter Lane put this suggestion forward. The Chief Planning officer objected, saying that it would take two years to do and that it would be difficult to get the necessary support from the GLC in any case. But Peter Lane persisted, supported by a number of other councillors and local residents who were also present. Finally the Committee instructed the officers to prepare the plans for lodging with the DOE soon.

What were the GLC doing? Again, the Bishops Branch members decided that inaction here would also be disastrous, so they arranged for a delegation of local groups to meet Norman Howard, Chairman of GLC planning, and Lillias Gillies, Chair man of the South Area Board.

### overwhelmed

At this meeting on November 16th Councillors Howard and Gillies were literally overwhelmed by representatives from the Waterloo Community Development Group, the Association of Waterloo Groups, the North Lambeth Neighbourhood Council, the Lambeth Estates Residents Association, the Stamford/Aquinas/Climland Residents Association, the Peasem Street Co-operative, the Pensioners Club, Miss Tenants Club, the Pensioners Action Group and two local schools.

After a long discussion the two Councillors promised GLC support for the plan, and most importantly said they would help Lambeth get it through as a legal plan.

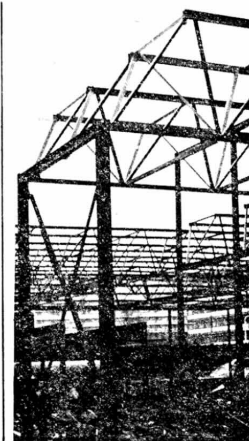
As a result of this local action the Waterloo Plan should be with Peter Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment, by Christmas, backed by both Lambeth and the GLC. But if you think that's the end of the struggle, then think again! Peter Shore will probably call for a public enquiry next year - so keep on fighting!

## Swimming triumph!

Southwark are the borough swimming champions of London for the third year running. They got their hat trick by beating teams from Camden, Enfield, Havering, Hounslow and Merton in the final of the London inter-borough swimming championship at Ladywell Baths, Lewisham, on Saturday, Nov. 27. In an exciting final, they finished nine points ahead of their old rivals, Hounslow, who have won the title on four previous occasions.

The Southwark team received the LBA silver trophy from Olympic gold medalist Adrian Parker, a member of Britain's modern pentathlon team. Each team member received a medal.

Another triumph is the building of the swimming baths at the Elephant - pictured left - due for completion in 1977.



## Boundary Inquiry went well

After the public inquiry last week into the proposed change of the boundaries of Cathedral Ward, which would mean the loss of one of the three ward councillors, Councillor Gates and representatives of the NSCOG said that they thought the Assistant Boundary Commissioner had listened sympathetically to their case.

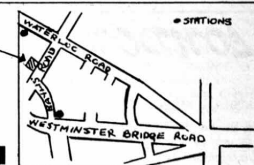
In contrast, the case of the Council put forward by Mr. Broomhead the Assistant Town Clerk was disorganised and inaccurate. Southwark Council have proposed putting the eastern boundary of the Cathedral Ward down the middle of Borough High St. instead of following the old Southwark-Bermondsey boundary down Crosby Row.

George Nicholson, presenting the arguments against changing the boundaries, said that not only were the population figures put forward by Southwark Council an underestimate of the number of electors in the ward, but that the loss of a Councillor would seriously reduce participation in an area which was experiencing great changes

and problems and needed maximum representation. Councillor Gates said that the boundary changes would break up the historic ties between Cathedral Ward and many old trusts in the area, for example, the Borough High Street was an ancient part of the borough with communities built up on either side. George Nicholson said that Borough High Street was not a boundary, but an artery linking the two sides of Borough High Street. Putting the case for the Council, Mr. Griffiths said that, 'Wards are artificial; in my view, wards are not of much significance in terms of planning.' This is quite to the contrary of the local view that the boundaries of the community and its activities should be of vital planning concern. Moreover, the Local Government Act of 1972 which provides the terms of reference for the Boundary Review says quite specifically "that regard should be had for any local ties which would be broken by the fixing of any particular boundary".

The results of the inquiry will not be known for several months.

**Waterloo Action Centre**  
14 Baylis Road SE1  
Tel 261 1404



## FREE LEGAL ADVICE

The Advice Centre is open every Thursday and we now have seven lawyers, a typist, receptionist and social worker. We can deal with any sort of problem and we will be able to write letters, make phone calls, etc., for you. If you should need to go to court we will put you in touch with a lawyer who can do this work for you. Even if your problem turns out not to be a legal one, our social worker will be able to give you advice. Although we mainly work for individuals, we are more than willing to help any groups, Tenants' Associations, etc., in the area.



# "T.A. will work" Says Chairman Mr Vydelingum

AT LAST the Campbell Buildings Tenants' Association has become a working reality.

Due to the relentless work of just two young ladies, Hilda Bailey and Maureen Birch, we have now got ourselves the beginning of a very good T.A.

It all started with Hilda and Maureen, almost entirely on their own, knocking on doors trying to get fellow tenants to join them. But as always, it was heart-breaking and often utterly disappointing. We tenants were all very enthusiastic, but when it came to paying our subscriptions, most of us were suddenly broke and could not afford the crippling sum of 50.

Well, now they are back, and with a very hard-working team who form the committee to help them this time. We have already had a successful meeting with Mr. Butterworth, the housing manager for Campbell Buildings; Mr. Greenstead, the housing officer; and also Pam Verden, the local councillor, to whom we are very grateful for her concern about the conditions of Campbell Buildings. She has taken a great interest in our T.A., and in my opinion will be one of our greatest champions.

The T.A. can and will work this time. Why? Because we now have a hard-working committee, who have a lot of good ideas on how to make our conditions better. Obviously we cannot expect miracles, but we can only do our best.

Some of the issues the committee will be helping with are: to accelerate the work on the installation of gas fires and water heaters - the work seems to be dragging on for too long; showers for those who want them; repairs to be done promptly; etc.

We have also been given a flat (No.292) by the housing management for our use. This is something which we are very excited about, because there are so many ideas on how to make use of it. Such as: a meeting place for O.A.P.s, a mothers' afternoon, an advice centre, a children's club, etc. Members of the committee will also be there on Monday evenings for an hour to hear any complaints against the housing

officials.

We shall try to help people to the best of our ability, with the help of the Waterloo Action Centre, who have been backing us from the beginning - in fact we would not have been so active without them, especially Pat Taylor. We would also appreciate any other suggestions on how to use the flat.

The T.A. is an organisation by the tenants for the tenants,

and it is only by standing together that we can improve our conditions. So, residents of Campbell Buildings, if you want things to improve for us, let us forget our petty prejudices and resentments, and join together for our own sakes, because if we are divided we cannot win. Join the T.A. and make it a force to be reckoned with. I am sure, when we are all together we will win through.



## Catwoman !

As you sit down to Christmas dinner this year, you can do so in the comfort of knowing that your meal is being shared by 80 stray cats in SE1. This is not an appeal for your Christmas turkey, but thanks to Mrs Osborne who lives in Peabody Buildings, Southwark Street, and a remarkable seven days a week all weather service she has been running for the last 26 years, the cats will be fed on Christmas Day. Mrs Osborne, no kitten herself at 76, wheels her pram every day around to several pick up points. Cats leap out of derelict warehouses and old buildings in Dolben Street,

Lavington Street, Leigh Hunt Street, Ewer Street and Great Guildford Street, waiting for their daily diet of fiddie meat, milk and cat food.

Several generations of cats have now benefitted from this early forerunner of the meals on wheels service.

Rumours that cats living in 3-bedroom splendour in Dulwich have got to hear of this service and moved North seem to have some truth, for with the scarcity due to the price of fish these days Mrs Osborne's diet is becoming the envy of the feline world. SE1 wish Mrs Osborne a merry Christmas as she does her meals service on Christmas Day.

## 'notice to quit' confusion

MANY LAMBETH Council tenants have been concerned recently about the new tenancy contracts issued to them in place of the old contracts. Many tenants, especially in Campbell Buildings, have shown great concern - particularly since the new contracts came with a 'Notice to Quit'.

'Notice to Quit'? Well, Lambeth Council have explained that in order to make the new contract legal, they have first to end the old contract - and this is done with a 'notice to quit'. They say it's just a legal formality, and no-one should worry about it.

What are these new contracts? All council tenants have a contract (even if they never see it) which says what they have to do or not to do to remain as tenants. What's new about this contract is that for the first time ever, it spells out what the Council agrees to do on its side - what the council's duties are towards the tenants.

The new contracts have come about because the Lambeth Borough Estates group (which is made up of tenants themselves through tenants' associations) have been pressing for three years to get the Council to do it. At first they made excuses - said it 'was not legally possible' (they thought all the tenants would sue them for failing to do what the contract says the Council shall do). But in the end they gave in - and the new contracts are much better than the old one.

So if you're a Lambeth tenant you'd probably do well to sign yours. But you should read it through first, and if there is anything you don't like, or don't understand, get in touch with the Tenant's Association before signing; or if you are not a member of one, contact the SE1 newspaper groups at 12 Maymott Street (928 1643) or the Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road (261 1404).

And meanwhile, what about Southwark Council setting down on paper its obligations towards its tenants? There's nothing to stop them and every reason why they should follow the example of Lambeth Council.

The Queen's Silver Jubilee  
London Celebrations 1977

## Green grows the Misplaced concrete oh !

The rush is now on to convert the open space in front of the Shell building on the South Bank into a public park with Band Stand, landscaping etc.

These plans are being hurried for the celebration of the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977.

Over the last decade the site has been used for public car parking, one of the many National Car Parks in this area.

The car park was allowed because no kind of building can be erected on this site, owing to a covenant order allocated to the Shell organisation until the year 2006. Many local residents who have been very concerned about this site were very angry when they first heard about the covenant. They have been fed up seeing motionless cars being allowed to park on publicly owned land, and have been pressing for a number of years to get something planned for the area. They did suggest having council housing built there until they heard about the covenant, which prevents this. So they have welcomed the new plans for more green area rather than acres of concrete. Councillor Ewan Carr, the local GLC representative, has been pushing very hard for a change of use of the site.

A small car park is being erected near the Hungerford Bridge side to take some of the

## Supernews

In their reply to the request for extending the supermarket in the Cut by taking over the empty shop next door, Caters' property manager has stressed that they are looking into this idea, but are also looking for a larger site. Apparently their lease on the present premises may not have long to run, and the current asking price for the empty Sussex Laundry shop is around £100 a week (including rates).

On hearing the news that Caters might be interested in another site, the Waterloo Community Development Group passed on the information and contacts regarding the allotment site in the Cut, and the David Greig building, which now has 9,000 square feet of food-shop space. So now we have two supermarket chains interested - the other being the Royal Arsenal Co-operative Society. We will keep readers informed of any developments.



Plan of environmental improvements by the Shell Building on the South Bank. Key: 1 Lawns; 2 Entertainment; 3 Formal garden; 4 British Columbia Pigeons; 5 Shrubbery; 6 Outdoor exhibition; 7 Overflow car park; 8 Waterloo footway extension.

visitors to the area. Why not ban car parking completely from the area? This could be possible with footbridges to one of the biggest railway termini in London, with both overground and underground railway, plus at least 30 bus routes passing through the South Bank area.

More significantly, locals are very concerned that cars will now be pushed further south into their streets - we already have coaches and private cars parking around the Lower Marsh area at weekends. This is the trouble with planning departments: they either take too long or they rush things. Surely the

Where's the next course?



## crocodile park next ?

commonsense thing to do (if you don't ban cars from the area altogether) is to bury the cars - that is, to build an underground car park beneath the new park. But no: new problems will arise, and that is why it is very vital for the people who live here to have a say in what is planned. It does concern them and they can forestall the problems that will arise.

Who will pay for the new park? 80% has been raised for the funding of the £275,000 project from private sources (among them Shell, who stand to gain a good deal of benefit from the new park, and the Brick Development Association who have provided the bricks for the scheme). The GLC contacted Lambeth Council to see if they would like to fund some of the costs, but the Director of Planning said 'sorry we've no money in the kitty'.

If you would like to see larger plans they will be on show at the Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road, SE1. Please come along and make your comments.

## Jubilee've this ?

The GLC Arts and Recreation Committee are going slowly barmy. Their latest scheme for livening up the Southwark disaster area will bring tears to the pigeons eyes.

Twenty paving stones are to be inscribed with poems, which will be periodically changed so that we don't get bored. No doubt council workmen will appreciate this poetic chore, but SE1 think the pigeons will deliver the only fitting message to our cultural masters in County Hall.

Another crazy paving scheme is to be found shortly at London Bridge where the GLC want to

spend £16,000 laying out a garden by the no. 47 bus stop. Moreover, this is not to keep the bus queue happy whilst they wait for hours. The Council officers feel that commuters should be able to enjoy a pleasant view as they scuttle from London Bridge Station over the bridge into the city.

A cheaper scheme to pave the area which would have cost £2,000 was rejected as being 'too Spartan'.

We should all thank the GLC for their concern for the sorely tried commuters, but what about the residents of SE1 having a few flowers near their houses?

## Eco-logical Bomb Site ?

To celebrate the Queen's Silver Jubilee next year, Southwark Council is planning a Riverside Walkway and Ecological Park on Thameside.

The Walkway will actually begin at Leicesters Square, going via St. James' Park to Lambeth Bridge and then straight along the riverside, past Southwark Cathedral, to Tower Bridge. Several bits of the proposed walkway do not exist yet, and will have to be provided by the council. Markers with the silver jubilee crown emblem will mark the route.

'Ecological Park' is the council's new name for a bomb site. This ecological bomb site is in Potter's Fields, next to Tower Bridge. According to a council report it will contain 'spontaneous vegetation as existing, undergoing gradual succession to natural scrub and woodland' and a 'freshwater pool in the hollow near the existing hut'. Also provided will be trees, ivy and creepers, rock plants, and a grassy glade.

Ironically, the Proprietors of Hays Wharf, who for years have been having secret discussions about their office plans, are pressing for public consultation with local people on the ecological park plans.

Meanwhile, SE1 would like to suggest a few more places which would qualify for the 'ecological park of the year' award. Like the eyesores in London Road Copperfield Street, Waterloo Road and Hagger Road.

## Fire Alarm

REMEMBER the campaign last year to protest at the proposed closure of Southwark Fire Station? There is a possibility that this will need to be revised, because there are whispers in the station that closure is once again being considered by the Fire Brigade.

The Brigade is administered by the GLC through its Fire Brigade Committee (Chairman: John Henry). The North Southwark Community Development Group has written to the Committee asking for a definite statement of their plans for Southwark Fire Station.

## LONDON SHORINJI KEMPO DOJO

SHORINJI KEMPO

is based on the methods of the Shaolin Monks. It combines a highly effective system of self-defence with Zen meditation. Training encourages the harmonious development of the body and mind, and promotes the four virtues of LOVE, WISDOM, COURAGE and HEALTH.

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## Shotokan

## Karate

TRAINING TIMES

Tuesday 1-2pm; 7-9pm.  
Thursday 1-2pm; 7-9pm.  
Saturday 10-12am

Phone Ron Scott 928 5338

Private lessons by appointment.

## Colombo St. Sports & Community Centre

merry
Xmas

North Southwark  
Community Development Group

108 Great Guildford Street

WE NEED HOMES, SHOPS, JOBS, AND NOT OFFICES & TOURISTS

LET US PLAN OUR AREA

928-8165

## AND NOW THE GOOD NEWS

IN THE MIDDLE of all the gloom and doom that is engulfing us as we go out of 1976, let's not forget THERE HAS BEEN SOME GOOD NEWS!!!

**Lambeth Council** decided on a plan for more housing and industry and less office building in Waterloo. This was because of the pressure of Waterloo people and against strong resistance from council planners and developers (see page 3 for more details).

The young Photographers Group at Blackfriars Settlement has spearheaded the movement for young people to become more interested in photography. An exhibition of their photos was at the Waterloo Action Centre and at many other places including Southampton, County Hall and recently Capital Radio.

**Courages Brewery** who employ around 1500 people in North Southwark announced they had abandoned plans to close down their brewery and bottling plant.

**Meals on Wheels** - after a big public outcry and a sharp reduction in the number of old people taking meals on wheels, Southwark Council was forced to reduce its huge increase in charges.

**Flat Iron Square** A public Inquiry into a proposal by a property developer to redevelop Flat Iron Square resulted in a major Victory for local residents. They were fighting to save the shops and the Department of the Environment decided not to give permission for redevelopment.

**Hatch Row** on the corner of Hatfield and Roupell Street is to have housing for families built on it by the Society for Cooperative Dwellings. The original plans for hostel accommodation were defeated by strong local opposition.

**Public Inquiries.** Many plans for office development have been defeated at public inquiries. These include the site at the old Dispatch Motors in Southwark Bridge Road.

**BOUNDARY INQUIRY.** Public Inquiry held after Southwark Council scheme queried by local people.

**Bermondsey Street shops.** Southwark Council negotiate to buy the shops after being alerted to the fact that if they were redeveloped, there would not be any shops left to serve Tyers Estate and White's Grounds.

**DHSS 99 - 101 RED CROSS WAY.** Public Inquiry to be held after massive local opposition.

THIS IS ONLY A SMALL PART OF THE GOOD NEWS FOR SE1 OVER THE LAST YEAR. LET'S MAKE 1977 AN EVEN GREATER YEAR TO REMEMBER!



Tookey Street T.A., Dickens Estate T.A., Millers Estate T.A. and North Southwark Community Centre were all represented at a Public Inquiry on the Bermondsey Riverside. The tenancy which commands probably one of the highest rents in the area was won by a developer proposal to build a new building permanently from January 1976.

**Deverell's, Downing's and Spring-hall Wharves.** Riverside saved for local residents after Inquiry Inspector agrees with residents from Dickens TA, Tookey St. TA, Millpond TA, NSDGG, and Arnold TA that a site bought for luxury housing should be turned into a park.

**Elephant Jobs,** providing badly needed jobs for 16-19 year olds in Southwark and Lambeth was started by Blackfriars Settlement using 'Job Creation Scheme' money from the government. They do building and decorating, carpentry, pottery, leatherwork and jewellery.

**Peasman Street** residents won their long battle to save their homes from demolition by Lambeth Council. They have formed a housing cooperative and hope to go ahead with modernising every house as soon as possible.

**North Southwark Community Development Group** submitted a planning application for family housing on Bankside, based on the same design as the Nicholson Street houses.

**The Greater London Council** have announced plans to build housing on land at Coin St and Doon St, between Stamford Street and the river. This was after a big campaign by the Waterloo Community Development Group. 80% of the homes are to be low rise family housing.

## ST THOMAS' DISTRICT Community Health Council

Has opened an Advice & Information Centre at 2-4 Cleaver Street, Kennington (582 3238)

Come and see us Merry Christmas

## SOUTH LONDON PRESS QUIT SE1

The other newspaper in SE1 has seen the writing on the wall. With the announcement that the South London Press office at the Elephant is to close, one era ends and another begins.

This unexpected boost to our readership puts us in a monopoly position in SE1 - but we promise to bring you the news as it is. Better still, you bring it to us and we'll bring it to everyone else.

May we wish our readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year - and to the South London Press, good luck in its new home.



# SE1 interviews REG GOODWIN, our Local GLC Councillor as we start 1977 - Election Year



SIR REG GOODWIN DOES NOT GIVE THE IMPRESSION of a man who seeks or gets the limelight. He seemed to regret that his responsibilities, first as leader of Bermondsey Council and then as leader of the labour group, both in opposition and in control of the GLC had taken up most of his energies, leaving him little time for local activities, apart from 'surgeries' in the area he has represented in various councils since 1937.

It was in that year, following his work with boys' clubs in Bermondsey, that he became a member of the old Bermondsey Metropolitan Council. He became leader of that council in 1946, and stayed until it disappeared, after reorganisation in the mid-1960s. He clearly looks back to those days as the 'golden age', talking with pride about their direct labour force, which built homes with gardens in Rotherhithe. At the time, many criticised the policy, but he feels vindicated by the swing back to homes with gardens as a reaction against the tower block era, which he clearly regards as having been disastrous from all points of view.

## offices pledge

The election manifesto which brought Sir Reg and his Labour group to power in County Hall in 1973 promised council housing between Blackfriars Bridge and Tower Bridge. The promise is still words: it hasn't been fulfilled in bricks and mortar yet. But Sir Reg insists that the GLC Labour group has not gone back on its word, and cites the various differences between the GLC

and Southwark Council on the office issue. He feels there is sufficient office development already, and that further development should be limited as much as possible.

## 'reject Mecca'

on the application from Mecca for additional office space in Southwark Street, which is currently being considered by the GLC Planning Committee, he said 'I'll do everything I possibly can to see it's rejected. It would be a terrible intrusion'

On the subject of Bankside, Sir Reg was equally firm: 'Yes, I want to see family housing', and he thought that in order to achieve this, the GLC would have to buy sites. Since Sir Reg had in the past been a Trustee of the Globe Playhouse Trust, we asked him how his commitment to family housing fitted in with this.

## homes v Globe

Without any hesitation he said that housing should have priority. On the Globe itself, he said 'I shall tell my friends in Southwark that I think it's fulfilled a useful job while it has been there, but the provision isn't any longer necessary. I'm not at all sure in my own mind', he said, 'that the Globe can possibly stand up to what is now provided'. He doesn't object to an extension of temporary use, but 'whatever is granted should be on the understanding that as soon as housing development gets the go-ahead, it will go'.

The proposed housing development in Coin Street has been attacked by the Tories in County Hall recently, because they think the site should be developed 'for London as a whole' (by which they mean, for private profit). Sir Reg's reaction to this attack is 'anything we can

do to make the policy stick before the election we shall do. Let's hope the election goes in a way so that this difficulty doesn't arise.

On the subject of the management of housing the GLC already owns, Sir Reg described the caretaking system as 'one of the biggest headaches'. Although they've been trying to get back to resident caretakers, the County Hall politicians have made little progress. The agreement the Tories came to with the unions, when they set up the mobile caretaking system was

## caretakers?

very advantageous and long-term. All the Labour group have been able to do is, with union agreement, to establish a 'residential presence' on big estates, to supplement the mobile caretakers. He thought the District Housing Committees that have been set up helped to an extent, and that the new system is working well.

Sir Reg was armed with sheets of statistics. When we asked him what the modernisation and improvement programmes for the Rockingham and Tabard estates were over the next few years, he had answers. On the Rockingham, there is £150,000 set aside for 'environmental improvements' for 1977/8; the clubroom is almost ready, and some flats are currently being modernised. On Tabard, the programme has cost £30,000, but there is nothing in the kitty for 1977/8. Getting away from the statistics, he admitted 'it's much less than one would want to see'

## public transport

Of all the issues we talked about, Public Transport services and fares seemed to concern Sir Reg more than anything. He mentioned the scrapping of the Ringway proposals, and a shift of resources to public transport as the biggest success of the present administration in County Hall. He obviously feels passionately that a good, cheap public

transport system is crucial to all aspects of life in London. His biggest disappointment is the failure to keep fares low; all they have been able to do is to mitigate the effects of fare rises on pensioners, with free bus passes and cheap tube fares; and on children with the cheap fares.

## if Labour win?

If Labour are returned in the GLC elections next year, Sir Reg hopes that they will get the Docklands scheme really moving, including the 'River Line' tube. He'd also like to see a strategic housing plan in which outer boroughs like Bromley would have to release land for homes for people from hard-pressed boroughs like Lambeth and Southwark. At the end, he offered to be of help to SE1 in the future if he could. We think that could be taken to be an offer of help to readers of SE1 too!



## Dolben homes

GOOD NEWS for housing in the area. Remember Issue 13? We printed a picture of the houses in Dolben Street (off Blackfriars Road) where former homes lying empty, were up for sale as offices.

Well they are going to be homes again after all. A co-operative scheme is planned for these three buildings and possibly also for seven or eight flats in another building nearby.

Anyone interested in joining this co-operative should contact Peter Challen at the Christchurch Industrial Centre, 27 Blackfriars Road, SE1 (928 4707).

# Chemist cont'd

eight we have lost in the last three years in both the north and south. A chemist is still badly needed around the Borough High Street district.

The Chemist Campaign itself is having some success on the national level. Since its formation other urban areas have shown that they too have the same problem. In fact as many as 25 chemists have been closing every month nationally. Through our local campaign, Age Concern have taken up the issue, the Pharmaceutical Service have produced a document on the problem.

The Campaign is very proud that it started the ball rolling, showing what local initiative can do! They have brought the problem to the attention of the St. Thomas' Community Health Authority and through them have got a Working Party together to

study the problem. The Working Party was made up of Planners, Pharmacists, GPs and two local residents for Lambeth, Southwark and Lewisham. Their final report was then brought to the attention of the Joint Consultative Committee of the Area Health Authority and from them we await progress

## recommendations

Some of the more important recommendations in the report were:

- \* That a chemist threatened with closure because of lack of off-sales should be supported with government money.
- \* That local authorities should help find alternative accommodation when a chemist is forced out by redevelopment.
- \* That local authorities should help chemists to open

up, by rent subsidies and other concessions.

\* That lists of addressees and opening times of Chemists should be kept displayed in public places and surgeries.

\* A major recommendation was that the Area Health Authority should approach the DHSS to ask them to get chemists 'based on social needs in areas where normal economic criteria have caused the closure of chemist shops'.

One of the main obstacles to implementing these recommendations is MR. GYVES, Administrator to the Family Practitioner committee, who still believes that chemists should open only in areas where there is 'sufficient economic demand'. Nothing about social needs, pensioners, young mothers with children.

## Best wishes from the Members & Staff

### BLACKFRIARS SETTLEMENT WORK CENTRE

WATERLOO ACTION CENTRE  
14 BAYLIS ROAD - LONDON SE1 7AA

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, SE1 Friends**

Buy your Christmas cards and gifts from our shopfront stall at the Waterloo Action Centre: hand silkscreen printed cards, beautiful woollen rugs, wooden plantstands, leather moccasins - they are well made, reasonably priced, and attractive - good value for money.

**"your local pub"**

## THE LORD CLYDE

THE BOROUGH S.E.1

### TRUMANS BEER

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Dennis, Molly, Michael, Lucy

**Hot & Cold Food 407-3397**



## Government Chemist

### -workers' headache

At the corner of Waterloo Bridge and Stamford Street stands Cornwall House. About 14 years ago, the two top floors of the building were converted into modern laboratories to house the laboratories of the Government Chemist. The laboratory dates back to 1842, and had been scattered in various buildings in London till then.

Few members of the general public know what the Laboratory does, yet in some way its activities affect everyone. It provides an analytical and advisory service to other Government Departments. Over 1,000 samples are examined each day - among them food, water, medicines, liquor, cigarettes, children's toys and imported goods. Senior staff attend over 2,500 meetings in London and Brussels each year.

About 435 people work for the laboratory, of whom 340 are qualified scientists. Most of the latter live in the outer suburbs and commute daily. The rest are employed as porters, cleaners, messengers, storekeepers, etc and tend to live locally.

### expansion

For some years the expansion of work in the Laboratory has led to serious problems of overcrowding and a strain on services to the building and it was against this background that the staff agreed in 1972 that the Laboratory should move to a bigger building 1-2 hours travelling time from London, and a ballot in 1974 showed Swindon to be the favoured location.

However, after a change of government it was announced that the Laboratory was to move to West Cumbria. The staff protest against this decision went unheard, and so on Tuesday 9 November they went on strike to lobby their MPs.

The proposed new laboratory in Cumbria is estimated to cost £11

million, yet a small overspill laboratory on Crown Land would cost £1 million and alleviate the present overcrowding. Most of the samples come from the South and South-East of England, so the cost of delivery would increase, and in the case of perishable goods special refrigerated transport would be required. Fares to a meeting in central London would increase from 10p to £50. All in all, the cost of running the laboratory would double to about £9 million a year. And some customers would seek alternative services rather than go to the trouble and expense of sending samples to Cumbria.

### waste of money

The staff view the proposal as not only a waste of money, but also the destruction of what is probably one of the finest analytical chemistry laboratories in the world.

Who then benefits from the proposed move? Not the scientific staff, for they are recruited nationally and would have to uproot themselves and their families. Not the people of West Cumbria, for far from solving the unemployment of the area, Cumbria will need to provide more jobs for the wives and children of specialist staff than the Laboratory will provide for local Cumbrian residents. Not the staff presently recruited from in and around SE1, for they will need to find alternative employment. Who then?

The conclusion the staff have reached is that the Laboratory should now stay in London and they have asked their MPs to help them in their campaign. A petition with over 360 signatures of staff working in the Laboratory was presented to Bob Mellish, Chairman of the Greater London Regional Council of the Labour Party, who has agreed to take up the case.



Bob Mellish receives the petition of 360 signatures

## Southwark rents - bankers' profits

Council rents in Southwark are to go up by 13% next April. This was decided by Southwark Council's Housing Committee in November, because figures prepared by council officials show that the housing deficit will go up by about £2 million. The rent increase will bring in an extra £1 million.

### Art-ful Dodgers

On BBC Nationwide recently we saw with our own eyes where the Arts Council money goes. £300 for guys walking around the streets with tin cans on their heads, plus a girl getting £500 for hanging dirty babies nappies and calling it art. Yet when the Waterloo Festival committee applied to the Arts Council for a grant towards this year's festival, they were refused.

Even though the application was for £100 less than they gave last year. Even though the cost of booking theatre groups and other entertainments had risen.

So come on, Arts Council - bring your dirty washing out into the open, and remember that local community festivals serve far more people.

The council's spending on housing divided into two parts, known as 'capital' and 'revenue'. 'Capital' spending goes on buying property, building new housing and modernising old houses and flats. Nearly all this money (which next year will be £42 million, a drop of £7 million from this year) is borrowed from banks and financial institutions in the City.

The Council has to pay interest on the borrowed money and this interest is one of the parts of Revenue Spending. Other parts are repairs and maintenance, caretaking and management. Revenue spending is paid for out of rents, government subsidy and rates.

Southwark Council will next year spend about £31 million in interest charges. This is three-quarters of the total revenue spending. About £10 million will go on repairs etc.

In one year interest charges will have risen by £6 million while spending on repairs and maintenance will have stood still at only £5 million.

So remember, if your rent goes up by one pound next April, 75p of that will be going to the banks, insurance companies and finance houses to boost their profits.

## Waterloo Amenities Group

IN CONJUNCTION WITH LAMBETH AMENITIES

present

## Grand Xmas Dance

AT ST. ANDREWS CHURCH HALL, Short Street

## 2 Great Bands

Providing Continuous Live Music

DOORS OPEN 7.30 pm Music Starts 8.00 pm till 1.0 am

BAR PROVIDED! TICKETS 50 p O.A.P.s 20 p

Tickets at the door or at Waterloo Action Centre

Friday

17th December



## SCENTS OF SOUTHWARK

IN GREAT SUFFOLK STREET, just behind the Fire Station, lies the Southwark Bacon Drying Company. The one irony of the positioning of these two old-established outfits in North Southwark is that on frosty winter evenings, or damp October ones, the streets around the bacon smoker take on the air of a forest fire, as smoke from the wood shavings in the bacon smoker billows at pavement level.

The scent must have driven many a duty fire officer crazy, as he whiled away a watch with his arch-enemy drifting around his nostrils.

The bacon smoking first started just after the First World War, and though smoked bacon is not as popular as it was, over 1,000 sides of pig are smoked there during a week.

Cyril Adams started work there when he left school 33 years ago and with five other staff, including a stovehand, a topman and a ropeman, they fill the ovens with either 'M68 sides hung six to a bar during the weekday, or 224 sides hung eight to a bar during the weekend.' - a bar, for those not in the smoking business being half the width of the oven. Two ovens are usually in use.

More are packed in at weekends as the pigs are smoked for two days, instead of the usual overnight smoking that the weekday pigs get.

In the old days, bacon was 'fired' three times. A firing starts at 4.30pm, with sawdust from a sawmill in Brixton being spread over the floor of the oven. The sawdust has to be hardwood, such as beech, but not too hard (like oak) because that burns too fiercely. The sawdust is set burning by some embers left from the last firing.

Mr. Kingley, who has worked there for 20 years, explained the process. "After the sawdust has been ignited, all the doors of the ovens are shut tight to get the ovens hot. During the night, depending on the weather, either a top or bottom door of the oven is opened a little to get a draught going. Later in the night

the doors are opened completely, and the smoke clears and the meat dries out in the draught."

At 6am the ashes are swept out and the customers start collecting their bacon shortly after.

Like everything else in life, economics has become a factor. Whereas in the old days, the bacon drying firm would be paid to take away sawdust, now they have to pay the sawmill, as the bacon company now has to compete against other firms who use the by-product for chipboard etc.

### pigs sweat

Also, as bacon has gone up in price, the three-day firing has become uneconomic. This is because the pigs sweat during the smoking process (wouldn't you) and lose weight. With bacon at £1 a pound, lost weight is money, so in one of those curious ways that economics affects taste, bacon is not as heavily smoked nowadays. Though most people would probably say they prefer it like that, they didn't have any choice really. It's a bit like the keg beer argument.

For 27p a side of pig, you can get your own bacon smoked, and during the last war, many did just that. People ran 'pig clubs' and used to get them smoked when they needed - after the government had taken a healthy slice, that is.

They have also smoked salamis and give saveloys 'a quick whiff' now and again.

English pigs, it seems, are not being smoked. Out of the thousand done in the week of our report, only a hundred were Eng-

lish, the rest being mostly Danish, although they used to smoke Kenyan bacon in the days before the Common Market.

The weather plays a big part in the bacon smoking process, and the staff of the plant have to be amateur meteorologists. If the weather changes suddenly overnight, the bacon will come out either as white/green or as when it went in or else be as well done as to look like spare ribs. If the wind changes direction, the sides may come out looking like zebras, part done and part not.

## Sumner Street, Bankside, 1898

LOOKING EAST FROM THE JUNCTION OF HOPTON STREET AND SUMNER STREET. BANKSIDE POWER STATION IS NOW WHERE THE SHOPS ON THE LEFT ARE. LOVE LANE, WHICH NO LONGER EXISTS, IS ON THE LEFT OF THE PICTURE. HOLLAND STREET SCHOOL USED TO BE IN LOVE LANE. SE1 WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM ANYONE WHO HAS MEMORIES OF WHAT BANKSIDE USED TO BE LIKE. (Who says families shouldn't live on Bankside?).



At the Bacon Factory - Our SE1 Reporter Nearly Cured!



1. It is within the South Bank Area, where once housing and industry stood.
2. It was recently opened by a royal person who was met by a lot of people dressed in penguin suits.
3. It is built of concrete and has seats facing it so that you can sit and look at it.
4. It cost a lot of money to build and to run and will continue to do so.
5. The people who use it do not live locally, but come from afar, even abroad.

NO PRIZES FOR GUESSING THE CORRECT ANSWER (see page 10) BUT

If you guessed it in under ten seconds you must be a local activist,  
if you guessed it in under 30 seconds you read SE1 Community Newspaper,  
if you failed to guess it you are either a planner or a member of the Arts Council.

# SE1 thanks all its supporters ~

The Community Newspaper for North Southwark and Waterloo



## Harry & Dora's

fruit & veg

78 RED CROSS WAY

wish all their customers

A Merry Christmas

## Best wishes from all the workers at the

## Waterloo Action Centre

ADVICE CENTRE  
Mon - Fri, 10am - 5pm.  
FREE LEGAL ADVICE  
Thursday, 6.30pm - 8pm.  
MUM'S CLUB  
Monday, 2pm - 4pm.  
OLD PEOPLE'S LUNCH CLUB  
PENSIONERS CLUB  
YOUTH CLUBS  
Mon, Tues, Weds, 7pm,  
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If You're a Mum  
With a Toddler,  
Make Sure  
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Your  
'HANDFUL'

London Borough of Southwark Road Safety Campaign

Need advice on any problems?

come in and see us  
any weekday  
at the

NEIGHBOURHOOD SCHEME  
and we'll help you sort it out

Blackfriars Settlement  
44-47 Nelson Square  
SE1  
phone: 928 9521

## Christmas Greetings

from the  
Rose & Crown

Have a good  
time

COLOMBO ST. SE1

tel. 928 4285



# and wishes you A Happy Christmas !

## What Where When?

OVAL THEATRE, 52 Kennington Oval SE11 (735 2786). Christmas Show 'The legend of the Dream King'. December 15-23, 7.45pm, 60p & 85p. Also Seizan Sai - Festival before death: Nipponese Food-Theatre comes to London. Dec 27-31. You must book in advance.

Lambeth Skips for rubbish that is too big for the dustbin: Coin St, Buckley St, Greet St, Pearman St, Hercules Rd, SE1.

LAMBETH Council Meetings, 7.15pm Lambeth Town Hall, Brixton Hill, SW2 (274 7722):

Dec 15 Amenity Services  
16 Health and Consumer  
Jan 3 Housing  
4 Public Services  
5 Social Services  
6 Management Services  
10 Finance and General Purposes  
26 Full Council Meeting

## Waterloo Adventure

The end of a long wait

At last some progress to report on the Waterloo Adventure Playground. Conversion work on the Thames barge will be started before the end of November. Meanwhile, the addition of a second full-time playleader and extra part-time help, make possible a programme of indoor and outdoor activities for the next month:

Monday

Indoor activities, such as table tennis, in the Waterloo Action Centre from 5.30-7.30pm.

Wednesday

Arts and Crafts in Flat 292, Campbell Buildings Estate, Baylis Road, from 5.30 to 7.30pm

Fridays

Football training in the Colombo Street Sports and Community Centre (Sainsbury's canteen), 7pm-9pm.

The Playground will be closed on weekdays until further notice.

Saturday and Sunday

The playground will be open from 10.30am-5pm.

Christmas Party

Activities will end before Christmas on Sunday 19th Dec with a Christmas Party in the Waterloo Action Centre from 2 to 6pm. Child-stars Bruce Lacy and possibly Ron Geesin will be there.

The general programme will start again on Weds 29th Dec. If anyone would like to help with any of these activities, especially preparing for and organising the party, please contact Jim Chapman or Dave Markham at the Action Centre.

Writing on the Wall

One plan for the near future is to let everyone know where and what we are by painting 'Waterloo Adventure Playground' along the outside of the playground. Blue Circle have kindly given us 60 litres of Sandtex to use for this.

A Merry  
Christmas to all  
our distributors

Including the following  
Newsagents and Pubs:

Potter 80 The Cut  
Purdum 47 Baylis Road  
Ellis Hercules Road  
Denny 66 Hatfields  
Waterloo Action Centre  
14 Baylis Road  
Toms 137 Southwark Bridge Rd  
Tierney Union Street  
Gibbon 20 Harper Road  
R.Welfare Great Suffolk St  
Potel 188 Tooley St  
Wadmore 159 Tooley St  
NSCOG 108 Great Guildford St  
Peterman 131 London Road  
McDaman 11 Snowfields

Rose and Crown, Colombo St  
The Wheatsheaf, Borough Market,  
Stamford Rovers Club, Cornwall Rd  
Duke of Sussex, Baylis Road  
Royal Victoria, Waterloo Road  
Horse and Groom, Westminster  
Bridge Road

Crown and Cushion, Westminster  
Bridge Road

\*Three Jolly Gardeners, Union St

AND EVERYONE ELSE, TOO NUMEROUS  
MENTAL, BUT EQUALLY IMPORTANT.



12 Meymott Street, SE1.  
tel: 928-1643

## In next month's SE1

It's up to you! All the stories, news and articles in SE1 are contributed by local people. Maybe you know of something which would be news to someone else, or maybe you are organising some event and would like to publicise it. Send in your news or give us a ring.

Or why not come to one of the meetings listed below where we sort out what will go in the next issue?

## Meetings

EXPERIMENT! - for ONE MONTH TRIAL  
Monday 10th January and 17th January

at 7.30pm at 12 Meymott St, SE1.

LAST DAY FOR ARTICLES FOR NEXT  
ISSUE IS 17th January.

PASTE-UP on 22nd & 23rd January  
NEXT ISSUE out on 28th January.

## GAS INSURANCE

INSURANCE against the gas or electricity meter being broken into is available to old people who are members of pensioners' groups, clubs or old people's welfare committees, via the AGE CONCERN organisation. Anyone interested in this scheme should contact Age Concern, Sunley House, Pitcairn Road, Mitcham, Surrey. (640 5431).

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas Carol Service Sunday 19th Dec at 4pm at St Andrew's Church, Short Street.

Midnight Service Friday 24th Dec at St John's Church, Waterloo Rd.

Christmas Day Communion 9.45am, Family Service 10.30am at St Andrew's Church, Short Street. Further details: ring 633 0852.

## Crisis at Christmas ~ info

Most things close down over Christmas, so if an emergency arises what do you do? SE1 has investigated what is available:

Social Security: Wedge House, Blackfriars Road is closed, but the Emergency payments office at 6, Marshalsea Road will be working on Christmas and Boxing Days.

Lambeth and Southwark Social Services offices: These are both closed from Dec.25 till the morning of the 29th.

Night Shelters: Salvation Army, 115 Blackfriars Road, will be open on Christmas day only for people resident there on Christmas Eve. Camberwell Reception Centre, Consort Road, SE15 (DHSS) will be open as normal.

St Giles' Centre (for young women, 16-25) will be closed over Christmas, but women in the shelter or the 23rd Dec. will be housed in a hostel.

Cecil House (for women only), 265 Waterloo Road, will be open as normal, but is heavily booked.

Gas: emergency telephone number is 639 2030

Electricity: emergency telephone number is 735 5511

Samaritans: 24-hour telephone number is 626 2277, and callers are welcomed 9am to 9.30pm at 39 Walbrook, EC4.

Legal help: Release is closed, but there is a 24-hour emergency telephone number 603 8654.

Housing advice: 'After Six' telephone number is 836 6534. (24 hour) INFORMATION: BIT, 146 Great Western Road, W11 (2298219). 24 hour.

The Day Centres at New Horizon, St Giles' Crypt, London Embankment Mission, and St George's Men's Care Unit will all be closed over the holiday.

CRISIS AT CHRISTMAS WILL BE holding their 'Open Christmas' at St. Mary's Church, Lambeth (next door to Lambeth Palace) from Dec. 24th until Dec 29th, providing food, shelter, entertainment, companionship and medical care for single homeless people. Crisis at Christmas are calling for volunteers, too, and asking for anyone who can collect food to make soup with, old men's clothes, or mattresses or other things, to contact them at 85 Carlisle Place, SW1 (834 3006).

John Paule would like to wish all his clients  
A MERRY CHRISTMAS  
and A HAPPY NEW YEAR



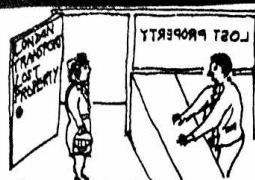
JOHN PAULE - BLACKFRIARS ROAD AND GREAT SUFFOLK STREET, SE1.



# LOST BUSES

Residents of SE1 are thinking of inquiring at London Transport's Lost Property Office to see whether any of the number 17, 48, 63, 109, 141, 155, 168 or 184 buses have been returned there rather than to the depot.

A recent GLC survey of traffic patterns on Blackfriars Road during the morning peak hours proved what local bus users already know - that a large percentage of the scheduled buses were not appearing. Out of the



"I've lost a bus"  
"Madam, you've been taken for a ride."

57 scheduled buses, serving seven routes, only 37 were actually seen during the survey time - a loss of 20 buses an

hour. An even larger number of buses have been lost somewhere between Southwark Street and Blackfriars Bridge, where 68 buses are scheduled and only 31 arrived.

Any people who have any clues or information on the whereabouts of these buses please report them to the SE1 office. Are there any secret car parks around? Strange rumblings underneath the Blackfriars Bridge? Misguided buses taking random trips on the Borough underground? Whatever the case, those who are standing...waiting... for the too few and infrequent buses would welcome their prompt return.

## Matters Arising....

**COURAGES** have put in a planning application to build a 100,000 square foot head office building on the old Petty Woods site in Southwark Bridge Road. The directors say that there are no plans to close the Gotting plant and brewery even though they are building a new brewery in Reading.

**GILL & DUFUS**, cocoa and commodity brokers, who have just occupied a brand new office building at 201 Borough High Street, last week declared estimated profits of £10 million for 1976. This is the site where the Council had to fork out £140,000 to pay for 'planning gain' library they should have got free.

**SNOWSFIELDS** developers, Compass Securities and C.T. Bowring have put in yet another planning application for comprehensive redevelopment for the block bounded by Snowfields, St. Thomas' Street and Weston St.

**ST. THOMAS' DISTRICT** Community Health Council is opening a shop at 2-4 Cleaver Street, SE11, (telephone 582 3288/3238). They are there for your problems, complaints and ideas about the Health Service.

**BANKSIDE HOMES.** The Family Housing Association have given their support to the North Southwark Community Development Group's planning application for housing on Bankside. They are due to meet with the GLC to discuss buying the site.

**GLOBE THEATRE** The GLC have approved a plan by Sam Wanamaker to erect a 2/3 size model of the original Globe Theatre on Bankside. The model comes from a film set and will stay for two years.

**DRAPER STREET** housing. Sixty three homes, 19 of them for old people and 4 houses for disabled people are planned by the GLC as an extension to the existing Draper Street Estate. It is hoped to start work later next year (1977).

## GLC HOMES a plot - O'Grady

The GLC have received a big boost to their policy of getting homes built on Southwark's South Bank.

At the last General Management committee of the Constituency Labour Party on November 18th, a motion supporting the GLC was successful despite opposition from Council Leader John O'Grady who suggested that the motion was all part of a sinister plot to get family housing built in North Southwark.

The case for family housing was put by George Nicholson of Cathedral Ward and was supported by the resounding margin of 30 votes to 2. The votes against were O'Grady and Councillor Kippin. Sir Reg Goodwin, Leader of the GLC, and our local councillor was not present but he is known to be in favour of getting more homes built in North Southwark. (see pages 6/7)

## Trade off

The multi-million pound Trade Mart Scheme for Surrey Docks, which was to have provided 11,000 jobs, has been postponed. The American company who planned the Mart are worried about the economic situation in Britain, and there have been difficulties in raising enough cash.

Sir Reg Goodwin, leader of the GLC, said that negotiations were still going on and they were investigating the possibility of getting government money. He said the GLC was also preparing other plans for the 150 acre site if, as seems likely, the Trade Mart never gets off the ground.

At a meeting called by Bermondsey Trades Council on November 25th, Guest speaker Mr Peter Miles, Southwark Industrial Employment Officer said "If it is possible to find alternative industries during the period of postponement, they will be seriously considered."

## INDUSTRIAL JOBS

Mr Miles spoke about the "industrial strategy" for the Borough which he hopes can create 5000 jobs over the next ten years. Jim Patrick of the Trades Council asked if the hope of creating 5000 jobs was "pie in the sky" but Mr Miles said that he was encouraged by successes so far. Eddis Hart, Secretary of Dickens Estate Tenants Association said he didn't want to see jobs brought to the area in food manufacturing which were providing "slave-labour" jobs. He raised the problem of the poor quality of education that many Southwark children have received by the time they have finished secondary school which didn't equip them for good industrial jobs. He urged Mr Miles to look into this.



MRS SWITHERTON HANDS OUT THE GOODIES AT THE DICKENS ESTATE TENANTS ASSOCIATION CHILDRENS XMAS PARTY, DECEMBER 4th

## Metal Box Printers Checked

There are persistent rumours that the Metal Box Company, employing 600 people in Great Guildford Street near Southwark Street is going to close down over the next year or two.

The fresh waves of rumours began in November when 100 employees in the personal cheque printing section were told that this operation would be transferred to Peterborough next year. Assurances have been given by management that there will be no redundancies, but as one union official said, "there is a general feeling that we all have a limited life."

The reason for the growing concern is that the printing of personalised cheques for Barclays Bank is a major part of the Great Guildford St operation. The women who work in the Varsity section doing the actual personalisation will probably be the first to go. But it is feared that other printing workers will be affected later. Under other plans it has already been decided that some of the clerical staff are to be transferred to Metal Box headquarters in Reading.

Metal Box is a giant corporation with plants and interests all over the world. One of the reasons for the transfer of the cheque printing is the lower operating costs and higher profitability in Peterborough; another factor may well be the office redevelopment potential of the Great Guildford Street site.

## Edward Henry scheme to go ahead

We have heard from the Stamford/Aquinas/Climeland Tenants' Association that the Department of the Environment has now agreed to the demolition of the centre block of Edward Henry House in accordance with the GLC scheme for improving the environment. It is hoped that demolition works can be programmed to commence very early in the New Year and the architects are preparing a plan for landscaping, etc.

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