



# RIVERSIDE REVOLT!

## NEW LABOUR LINE UP

There will be five new faces standing as Labour candidates in the Riverfront wards of Cathedral and Riverside.

This dramatic injection of new blood follows the selection meetings held by the local Labour Party Ward Branches in December. The candidates selected at these meetings will go on to be the official Labour Party Candidates for the Borough Council elections in May.

Both Cathedral and Riverside returned a massive vote of no-confidence in the present line up of Councillors, and rejected as candidates Councillors Gates, Kippin, Lauder, Stevens, and Tucker. The present Chairman of Housing, Alderman Sawyer, was also rejected by Riverside Ward. In their places will be 5 candidates who have not stood for Council before. The vote echoes what local people have been saying, and it is no coincidence that the new candidates all work closely with Tenants Associations and other Local Organizations who have often been critical of Southwark Council.

## local groups

The new candidates for Cathedral Ward are Alan Davis, secretary of the Employment and Planning Committee of Southwark Trades Council, and George Nicholson, a worker with the North Southwark Community Development Group. Both Southwark Trades Council and the NSCDG have campaigned strongly against office development and have been active in the fight for more industrial jobs, housing, and better community facilities in North Southwark.

The Riverside candidates are Coral Newell, who is secretary of that branch and active on Guys Community Health Council, Tom Cornish, a member of the committee of the Dickens Estate Tenants Association and also of the CHC, and Peter Flower, past chairman of the Constituency Labour Party.

Chaucer Ward, which is the next ward to Cathedral, also has 2 new candidates who have filled vacancies brought about by Councillors retiring from offices, and elsewhere in the

borough other new candidates have been selected. In contrast, some of the present Council have been dislodged. The deputy leader of the Council, at present a Peckham Councillor, and the Chief Whip a Dulwich member, have not been selected again, and Alderman Hall, who recently came to prominence in SE1 for his good luck in rehousing, has also failed to find a seat.

## manifesto

Coral Newell told SE1 that her aim was "to see that local people benefitted from the developments of the Riverside, not the city of London. It has to be re-established that people come first not rate income, otherwise the people of SE1 will continue to be regarded as second class citizens", she said.

George Nicholson told SE1 that it was the policy of Southwark - Bermondsey Labour Party to push for family housing to be built on Bankside and Hays Wharf, and he would be pushing for this to be included in the Election Manifesto for the May elections. "The Council has become too remote from Local People and too much Council business is done behind closed doors. This must be reversed," he said.



THE FIREMEN HAVE SETTLED THEIR DISPUTE, BUT LETS NOT FORGET THE MANY ACTS OF KINDNESS AND SUPPORT GIVEN THEM, INCLUDING THE CHRISTMAS PARTY ORGANISED BY SOUTHWARK TRADES COUNCIL FOR THE CHILDREN OF 'B' DIVISION FIREMEN AT HAVIL HALL ON DECEMBER 30th.

## THANK YOU JIM!

JIM HUNTER, LOCAL MILKMAN SINCE 1947 RECEIVED A PRESENTATION FROM THE RESIDENTS OF WINCHESTER ESTATE, UNION STREET ON DECEMBER 29th. GOOD LUCK JIM AND TO THE NEW MAN. ANOTHER JIM, WELCOME!!



## DEMOLITION DATE FIXED

### tenants survey starts

Demolition of Campbell Buildings on Baylis Road is now definite. The first block at the Frazier Street end (nos. 241 - 300) is due to come down in 1979. The last block, at the Westminster Bridge Road end will be demolished in 1981/82.

So far it has appeared that a majority of tenants are in favour of demolition (flats have no bathrooms and only recently hot water in kitchens). The Tenants Association is about to carry out an extensive survey to find out exactly how many people are in favour of demolition, how they want to see estate demolished - an alternative to Council plans could be to empty whole estate before demolition starts.

(This would mean tenants escape demolition noise, dirt, etc.,

but could mean problems with so many flats left empty.) The Tenants Association also hopes to find out from the survey how many people want to stay in Waterloo and why. A recent brief survey indicated that many people do in fact want to stay in Waterloo. The Council also decided at the last housing committee meeting not to let any more flats in Campbell Buildings. The policy for the last year has been not to let flats to families, but to let them to single people or couples without children. It now looks as though some flats will be left empty for 4 or 5 years! This seems appalling in view of the present housing shortage and no. of single homeless people.

Attempts have been made to give families of Campbell Buildings (many of whom are overcrowded) priority for transfer to a new flat. However, the Housing Committee decided at their last meeting not to give special consideration to families of Campbell.

Some families have been nominated to the GLC decant list, which gives them higher priority, but offers so far have been totally unsuitable (e.g. on the 16th floor of a tower block). The Tenants Association is still pushing to get these families transferred as soon as possible.

# WRITE

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

## YOUR VOICE - YOUR VIEWS - YOUR NEWS

### Anyone for football

Dear SE1,

The Kennington and District Youth Football League began last March, when four team managers decided to form their own league. A lot of work was put into the project and the result to date is that seven teams of lads, aged 11 to 14, are enjoying a game of soccer at the local park nearly every Saturday morning.

It has been a very successful season so far, together with league games there are two cup competitions, both have now reached the Semi-final stage, and we have had some exciting games, this calls to mind the cup tie between Stockwell and Europa Olympics, the two games ending with an aggregate score of 9 - 9, with Europa going into the Semi-finals on away goals. In another game Kenny Jackson scored seven goals when his team had a record win of 11 goals to 1, and talking about goal scorers how about the Blenheim Gardens' "Dynamic Duo", Mick Taylor, who is the league's highest goal scorer with 32 goals, and Malcolm Redman with 14 goals, who have helped to put their team on the top of the league.

Next season we hope the league will grow into two divisions, to do this we need more teams and we want to hear from any youth club or organization who are interested, perhaps there is a young lad reading this who could get his mates together to form a team.

If you have a team (Age limit 14) do not wait until next season, phone 737-3455 after 4pm (Not Fridays) and our fixture secretary will arrange a friendly game for you, or you could call personally at the Mayall Rovers H.Q. at the Effra Neighborhood Council Room, Trellawn Road Brixton (Near Effra Parade) on a Friday evening. Saturday morning football is that all the best players play for their school teams, but what about all those who cannot get a game? The K & D is affiliated to the London Youth Football Association, and the Lambeth Council allows us free use of the pitches, dressing rooms and showers. Our match reports are printed in "The South London Press" on Fridays and all our results, goal scorers, and league tables in Sport and Showbiz magazine.

Mr. C.A. North  
213, Mayall Road  
Herne Hill  
SE 24 OPS  
Fixture & Results Secretary  
K & D Y F L

### Womans keep fit

Dear SE1,

The women of the Taneswell Estate Mum's group gave a Christmas party for the kids. It turned out to be a great success. Plenty of food, drink and fun for all.

If you are a mum with children under five and are interested in joining our group, it's every Monday 1:30pm until 3:00 pm. Mums meet in Barley Mow Clinic, Frazier St. The children are looked after at 292 Cambell Buildings, Frazier St.

**ALSO COME AND HAVE FUN AND KEEP FIT** Tuesday afternoons, 1:30pm - 3:30pm, 2nd floor, Colombo St. Mum's and children's Keep Fit Class. Great fun, come along and see for yourself.

### Pub thanks

Dear SE1,

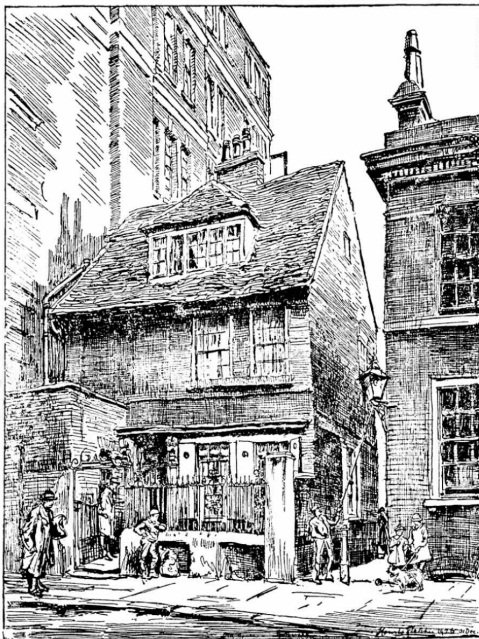
Please could you put a few words in your paper thanking, the Governor of the Rose and Crown pub, Mr. George Effington and his staff, for the Christmas party they put on for local senior citizens. We had a wonderful time. Nothing was too good for us and everyone really enjoyed themselves.

Mrs. Tanner

### Christmas cheers

O.A.P.S. Christmas Thanks

On behalf of the pensioners in our part of S.E.1 may we thank all those pubs, schools, and firms who helped and responded very well in providing a party or a Christmas parcel to local O.A.P.s. Well over 200 pensioners enjoyed the benefit of either one of these, co-ordinated at the Waterloo Action Centre. 70 pensioners enjoyed a Christmas dinner and party at the Rose & Crown, Colombo St. 200 residents, most of them senior citizens, enjoyed a buffet party at the Old Kings Head, Blackfrairs Road. (By the way, Congratulations to Ann and John for their recent birth of a son John Martin.) Thanks to the workers of the Telephone Exchange, Jane St., U.A.C. International, the London Nautical School, Beafey School, Lollard St., Johana St. School, and the I.P.C. Social Club for providing for the Christmas parcels. And the local hairdressers, who provided a free hairdo as prizes at the Rose & Crown party. WELL DONE, ONE AND ALL.



1926 PRINT OF NELL GWYNNE'S HOUSE which is still standing, unoccupied, on Hopton Street. Nell was famous as King Charles II's mistress. It's a pity he didn't have more mistresses from the area - we might have more houses like this on Bankside!

## Support your school

Dear SE1,

The Action Committee met on Tuesday 17th January, the first meeting of the new year. Reports given by members of the Committee seemed favorable and hopes for the School a little brighter. Two members of the Educational Sub-committee had pledged their support and "Where", the Educational Magazine, has received details of the proposed closure of the school as requested in their January issue.

As readers may know, St. Patrick's School, Cornwall Rd. is faced with a similar closure and at the end of last term held their parents meeting. Two members of our Committee were present and it appears that the parents of

St. Patrick's feel the same as we do about the proposed closures. It was therefore decided at our meeting to invite representatives from St. Patrick's to attend our next meeting in St. Andrews-St. Johns School on Jan. 31st at 6:00pm, so that perhaps a stronger viewpoint may be gained. A report of this meeting will be printed in the next issue of S.E.1

In the meantime, please do all you can to support these schools, as the life and continuation of Waterloo depends upon them.

Maureen Phillips  
Chairman Action Committee  
St. Andrews - St. Johns School

## UNISEX HAIRDRESSING



28 Meymott St. Blackfrairs Rd.  
Tel. 928 4819

## CONSULTATION ON TRIAL

A TEST CASE OF WHETHER PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEANS ANYTHING IS PRESENTED BY THE FUTURE OF THE OLD NETTLEFOLD AND MOSER SITE OPPOSITE THE BOROUGH TUBE STATION. Moser's moved out of these premises five years ago and sold the site to a property developer. This development company is now in the hands of the Receiver who is trying to get the maximum value for the site. Southwark Council is, for this reason, about to consider an application to redevelop the site for offices and it is rumoured that they will grant approval.

This comes at a time when residents of the Borough and Bermondsey are being asked for their views on the North Southwark Local Plan. Stage I of the consultation was held in 1976. Last summer, at Stage II residents and people working in the area were asked for their views on individual sites - including the Nettlefold and Moser site.

The NSDCG have written to the Secretary of State for the Environment, Peter Shore, saying that the Moser's application pre-judges the Local Plan consultation because it is being considered before the Plan is completed.

Residents living near the site have sent petitions to the Council urging them to refuse the application. Petitions have also been sent in by St Saviours School and St Hugh's Parish Council. As an alternative, they want to see the site developed for housing and shops with family units and gardens backing onto St Saviour's and St Joseph's schools in Redcross Way.

Peter Shore has been asked to take the application out of Southwark's hands and call a public inquiry to consider all the facts of the case. By law the Council can turn down an application on the grounds that it is premature. But if they will not do this, the Minister now has the chance.

The application is scheduled to come before the Planning Applications Committee on Tuesday February 14th at 7:00 pm, Peckham Town Hall. It should be a significant meeting.

Photo by Blackfrairs Photography Project

## Single peoples' housing list abolished

Lambeth Council decided at their last housing Committee meeting to abolish their single persons waiting list for "hard-to-let" flats. This scheme was advertised in SE1 last year and several local single people managed to get accommodation in Campbell Buildings, Baylis Rd. However, Council policy is now to let these properties to single homeless people whose need is clearly greater. The Council is now in the process of writing to all 5,000 people on the waiting list to tell them they will not be getting accommodation.

It is not yet known how

many single homeless people will be housed under the new scheme. Last week Lambeth Housing officers claimed that at present there was virtually no empty property available for single people (i.e. properly that families don't want). However, Lambeth Council have also just decided not to let any more flats in Campbell Buildings. (See Page 1 article) This means that flats will be left empty in Campbell for 4 years or possibly more, while the Lambeth Council claim they have no empty property for single homeless people. Could this be that they are worried about their obligation to rehouse them?

## Southwark an easy touch for developers

Southwark further enhanced their reputation amongst property developers as "an easy touch" by once again allowing a speculative office block that will mean the loss of the shop on the corner of Borough High St. and Great Dover St.

The scene for this further sell-out was set by an unprecedented turn out of top council officials. The Town Clerk, the Borough Valuer, the Director of Development, the Borough Planner, and a host of lesser officials outnumbered councillors by 2 to 1. It was no surprise, therefore, that debate on the application was dominated by the Council officials, with the councillors looking on as pathetic spectators.

To give the council credit, they did conduct a survey to find out where local people shopped. Unfortunately, they did not find out who actually used these shops, which made the exercise totally worthless. Southwark has also been pursuing a shopping policy which states that, "the aim of the Council might well be best achieved by accepting that the disappearance of some shops will lead to a strengthening of shopping facilities."

For SE1 readers who may be thinking that that sounds like a non-shopping policy, that is precisely what it is. Worse still, the Borough Valuer in his report also concludes that there are ample shopping facilities in the area. The Borough Valuer feels that there should only be two shops on this site, though offers no reasoning for this statement. With idiotic advice like this, it is no wonder Property Developers rub their hands in glee. Southwark Council do all their work for them.

In any deal, if you have winners, you have to have losers, and this time the losers are the residents of SE1 - AGAIN.



A FAMILY THAT HAS RECENTLY MOVED INTO SCOVELL ROAD, a new Southwark estate on the site of Queen's Buildings, Borough Rd. There are 117 housing units, many of them occupied by previous residents of Queen's Buildings.

## 'Golden Acres' of Hays Wharf

There has been a sudden increase in interest by development companies in the so-called "golden acres" of Hays Wharf. The latest annual report of the Proprietors of Hays Wharf, who own 38 acres of prime riverside land, says "there has been a revival of interest in the Tooley Street area, particularly in the last six months and many enquiries have been received regarding future development possibilities."

Ever since the property boom years, the Hays Wharf company has been keen to develop its properties for office development. At one time, they were talking of one million square feet of office space along Tooley Street - a scheme they called "City Within a City". The scheme was billed as the "greatest development in London since the Great Fire". Fortunately for the community, this never got off the ground.

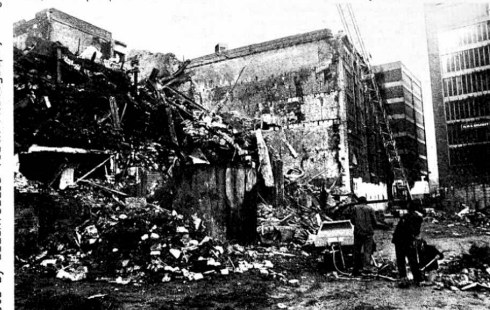


Photo by Blackfrairs Youth Photography Project

Major prize, however, remains the 17 acres of land between the Belfast and Tower Bridge. This is the site presently occupied with a mixture of "temporary uses" including a lorry park, ecological park, skateboard park and derelict warehouses. One of these warehouses was the subject of a mysterious fire in mid-January.

It is alarming that speculative interest in Hays Wharf is growing just when local people are putting forward their own ideas for the riverside as part of the public consultation over the North Southwark Local Plan. Local residents, including the Tooley Street Tenants Association, have no doubts about what they want on Hays Wharf - they want houses with gardens and open space. It is doubtful whether Hays Wharf care much about the views - there is no reference to the Local Plan in their annual report and discussions are apparently continuing, as they have done for many years, between Hays Wharf representatives and Southwark Council development officers.

It will be interesting to hear what the company has to say for itself at its AGM on February 15th. Significantly, the Hays Wharf AGM is to be held in Hibernia Chambers.





IN THE PAST, SE1 HAS CHALLENGED LOCAL COUNCILLORS in North Southwark to speak out about where they stood on the issue of the future of the area they represent. The response was deafening in its silence.

Now the local Labour Party branches have made their voices heard and rejected those same councillors. We hope SE1 may now look forward to the newly

selected candidates in Cathedral and Riverside Wards making their views clear, and pursuing policies that meet the demands of local people - and helping to strengthen local involvement in decision-making.

Meanwhile in Lambeth, newly selected candidate Bryn Davies replaces absentee councillor Gregory and joins Pam Verden and Peter Lane, who have been

in the forefront in drawing up the Waterloo Local Plan and in the compulsory purchase order on the Coin Street site.

With the prospective new MP, Stuart Holland, actively supporting community groups, we look forward to a united front all along the SE1 riverside. It's good news for SE1 residents and a headache, we hope, for property developers and their champions in Government and Council chambers. Good luck Good luck to the candidates. We'll be with you as long as

## £5 million more to spend-or is there?

How to spend £ 5 million a year. That was the inviting question asked at a public meeting last month, attended by over 75 local people.

The meeting was called by local groups who are anxious that the community should determine how Lambeth Council should spend the money recently made available under the Government's programme for regenerating Inner City areas.

Stuart Holland, Labour's parliamentary candidate for Vauxhall, warned the meeting - organised by the Association of Waterloo Groups and North Lambeth Neighbourhood Council - that we must make sure the money is not spent on things that the Council should be doing anyway. This £5 million is supposed to be extra money, to make the inner city a better place to live.

Local people must also make sure they are involved in deciding how the money is spent, and not leave it to professional committees.

Many people spoke from the floor. Among the ideas put forward were:

- 1 THE PEDESTRIANISATION OF LOWER MARSH - so that shopping would be made easier.
- 2 MODERNISATION OF TANSWELL ESTATE - the estate is in urgent need of improvement.
- 3 CONVERSION OF WATERLOO CAR PARK INTO A PUBLIC OPEN SPACE - some outline plans for the conversion have already been drawn up to include 5-aside football pitch and other recreational facilities.

- 4 SHELTERED HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY.
- 5 IMPROVEMENT OF PAVEMENTS.
- 6 WORKSHOP FOR MENTALLY HANDICAPPED.
- 7 RESOURCE BANK FOR TOOLS - which could be run on the same lines as a lending library.
- 8 MORE MONEY FOR ST ANDREW'S AND ST PATRICK'S SCHOOLS - could convert some buildings to provide nursery school.
- 9 LIST OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS DETAILED IN WATERLOO DISTRICT PLAN - e.g. road and traffic improvements, more family housing, retention of schools and shops.

Ideas from residents in the North Lambeth SE11 area included:

- 1 FENCING FOR BEAUFORT SCHOOL.
- 2 PLAYGROUND FOR WINDOT STREET.
- 3 PLAY AREA FOR SIMPSON/LEARY HOUSES IN VAUXHALL GARDENS ESTATE.
- 4 SWIMMING POOL IN LOLLARD ST/ KENNINGTON RD.
- 5 SPORTS HALL AND JUNIOR FOOTBALL PITCH FOR FITZALAN STREET OPEN SPACE.
- 6 Encourage more stalls in the LAMBETH WALK STREET MARKET.

### WATERLOO PRIZE

You can win £25 by simply thinking of the best idea for a project to improve the Waterloo area and sending your entry to the Association of Waterloo Groups, 14 Baylis Rd, London SE1. Hurry, hurry!

**£25 to be won!**

Lambeth Inner City Consultative Group will be held on Wednesday 1st February 1978, 8 pm in Room 5 of St Matthews Meeting Place in Brixton. THEIR MEETINGS ARE OPEN SO YOU CAN GO ALONG AS WELL TO JOIN IN THE DISCUSSION OF PROPOSALS FROM LOCAL RESIDENTS.

## Support Your Local Shop

OPEN UNTIL 8pm MONDAY-FRIDAY,  
7pm SATURDAY,  
1pm SUNDAY.

- fresh milk daily
- frozen foods
- all groceries & provisions

- newspapers
- confectionery & tobacconists
- hot snacks, rolls and sandwiches to take away

Green Shield Stamps on all items. Double Stamp Saturdays.

**TNOS. E. DAVIES & CO (TOMS)**

**137 Southwark Bridge Road, SE1**

# SE1 the-inside story

Here we are, writing our articles for another issue of SE1, trying to get everything finished for the paste-up week-end coming up fast. Already, we've had our two evening meetings this month to plan this issue.

We talked about all the news and photos that ought to go into the issue, and who might write the articles. If possible, we try to get people directly concerned with what's happening to write the articles - TA's on problems on the estates, action committees on the problems they are working on, etc. We listed all the articles on the blackboard, assigning them to various pages in order to see whether we will have enough articles. We also tried to get articles from all over the area - from Waterloo to Bermondsey and down to Elephant.

And when the business - such as opening, reading, and filing mail, and discussing letters and criticisms of the paper had been dealt with, those of us who had time relaxed over a pint in the pub.

Now I face the hardest part for me: writing an article, this time, on how SE1 is produced. I should point out that none of the people who work on the paper are journalists.

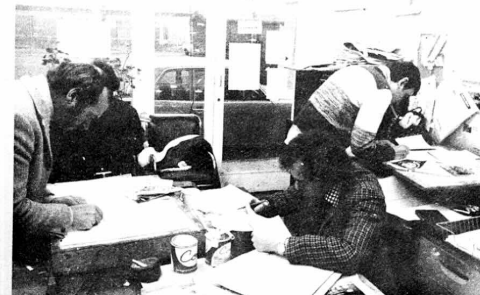
Each individual scheme will have to be approved by the Government as well as Lambeth, who then decide how much they pay and how much Lambeth ratepayers will have to cough up.

Urban Aid is 2/3 paid by the Government, Derelict Land projects 2/3. Housing schemes vary, and so on.

Then if it's a Capital project like the Monkton Street Home for handicapped children (incidentally, an example of something that the Council would have done anyway but used this inner city money just to bring forward), then the Government actually only give £20,000 to cover the interest cost, although the full £0.2 million capital cost gets knocked off the annual £ 5 million.

Complicated, isn't it. Still, it's better than nothing.

Every headline is done with Letraset. You transfer each letter from the Letraset sheet by rubbing over it with a pen.



Putting the paper together at the "paste-up" the hectic work of typing, gluing, last-minute writing and layout takes place at the SE1 office in Maymott St.

We all just contribute what we can when we can. (No one gets paid, except the printers.) There are so many different things to do, like writing articles, getting advertisements, and going around to new pubs to try to sell SE1. (That's my favorite, even when they won't take an SE1 display box - it gives me an excuse to go to another pub and have another drink.)

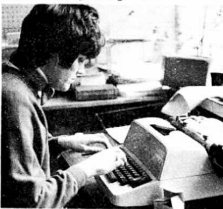
All of the article writing, ad selling, and photo snapping seem like they'll never get done on time, but then the paste-up weekend is upon us. Saturday has some frantic moments of last minute writing, typing the final copy of articles into column-widths, and printing the photos at Blackfriars Settlement. This is when we all tell ourselves that next issue we'll try to have all the final copy typed and photos printed by Friday so we don't have to work so hard on the weekend. But usually things begin to take shape by Saturday evening and we have a chance to get a drink before the pubs close.

Then Sunday we're at it again. Some type, others glue down articles onto the page or make up headlines for stories, "lectra-set" the headlines and the ads, or make up captions for the photos. There's always lots to do, and plenty of variety. In the end there are bits of glue and scraps of paper all over the place - the office looks a right mess. But hopefully, the newspaper itself is neat and well organized (without too many mistakes) by Sunday night, because it has to go to the printers Monday morning.

We get the paper back on Thursday, and start taking it around to the pubs, news agents, hairdressers, community organizations, and the many individuals who sell the paper, collect money and pick up any left over copies of the last issue.



Designing the layout of a page. The articles are juggled around until everything fits.



The articles are typed on an electric typewriter.

And then, before I know it, it will be time for the first Monday evening meeting, and everyone is talking about the next month's issue. Maybe someone will try to come up with ideas about how we could get more people to come and work on the paper. Perhaps someone will say, "Maybe they don't realise we're open to anyone who wants to get involved." Perhaps someone will say, "Maybe they don't realise it's simple and fun - no special skills needed."

Probably somebody will say to me, "That was a pretty corny way to end that last article you wrote."

## Is it a bird? Is it a plane? No its Ratman!

TO MANY PEOPLE the mere mention of the words "rodent control" will conjure up a picture of a rather hysterical lady standing on a chair in the middle of a room, holding a plate of cheddar and screaming, while mice and rats run frantic circles around her, being chased by a little man aided by a cat, a terrier and a couple of ferrets.

In an interview with SE1, Stan Fletcher, a supervisor in the pest control section of the Department of Public Health, paints the real picture.

Mr Fletcher has studied and worked in pest control for 30 years. A native of Bermondsey, he worked originally for a local medicine and pillmaking company. After serving in the RAF during the 2nd World War he took a course of training and went to work for the British Ratting Company, later to be known by the more delicate title "Rentokil".

"Everyone said I was mad" he remarked. However he enjoyed 25 years of service before moving to his present post with the Council 15 months ago. He and two other supervisors head a team of nine highly trained "rodent operators".

### You don't have to be dirty to have mice

Mr Fletcher was keen to dispel some of the popular myths about what causes infestation, and methods of destruction.

For instance, a building does not necessarily have to be dirty or derelict to harbour mice and rats, nor a person unhygienic to catch fleas. Workers in Southwark's many spanking new office blocks may be surprised to learn that their chic suites are probably crawling with as many mice as any old factory or tenement, pulled down to make way for piles of concrete.

The reason is that the warm air ducts which convey the central heating and the spaces between floors are ideal for rodents to live and breed in, and as a mouse can survive on a 2oz of mouse per day, the odd crumb from a packed lunch will provide them with all they need.

In effect though, nowhere is entirely free from pests. Stan even remembers the time when he was called out to a West End Strip Club to investigate certain red blotches on the girls' thighs (there's more to this job than meets the eye) and discovered they had picked up some lice from a pigeon's nest on the dressing room window-sill. Thus was Soho cleaned up by the lice squad before Scotland Yard ever heard of the place.

The most usual method of dealing with rodents is, of

course, poison. Our fearless exterminator of vermin pointed out that this process is not just a question of throwing the poison down, but involves investigation into the key nest locations and the safest places to lay the poisons in order to protect inquisitive pets and children. Occasionally a trap has to be placed instead, or the rather less humane "sticky boards" whose operation is self-descriptive.

There have been two occasions in recent years when the Pests have launched full-scale counter attacks. In 1969-70, mice inconsiderately developed an immunity to the poisons hitherto used with total success against them, and brains had to be set ticking to find new and deadlier chemicals to combat them. This hurdle conquered, in '73 the fleas joined in the attack and the instance of flea reportings went up from 2 or 3 to over 200 calls per month. The Public Health Department is still using war in this area, the cause having been traced to the vast increase in the vagrant cat population in recent years.

Stan has been active in bringing the subject of vermin out of the realm of embarrassed silence and into the open for discussion, by giving lectures and film displays to the public and in schools in an attempt to educate people to a better understanding of a situation which faces almost everyone in some form or another from time to time.

### My work is my life

Stan has only recently made a remarkable recovery from lung cancer and is confined at present to his office. His own words are a true reflection of his dedication to his work in the public's interest: "I said when I went into hospital that I was determined to come through and get back to work. My work is my life."

We say: May he and his Fearless Fighters continue to dole out their deadly POW! & THWACK! to those Mordant Men of Mankind, the Voracious Vermin, for a long time to come.

### News Flash

**CATCHER IN THE RYE**  
The GLC's Housing Management Committee at its meeting on 18 November agreed to the employment of a dog catcher. A pilot scheme has been operated successfully and now the scheme is to cover all estates. The GLC's feeling is that tenants who already had dogs in 1975 were allowed to keep them but new permissions are only given to certain tenants. These dogs are listed on a register and are required to wear collars and tags to identify them.

## WHATS THIS PARTNERSHIP?

The £ 20 Million is available on condition that decisions about how it is to be spent are made jointly between the government, the Council, and the local community.

It remains to be seen how this "partnership" as it is called, will actually work. There is a "partnership committee", but it has no representatives of local community groups on it, even though it has representatives from bodies like the police - and despite the government talking about the need to involve the community in the inner city programmes. It is clear that this involvement will only happen if the community makes an organized and determined fight to make sure it does!

A Lambeth inner city consultative group has been set up, with representatives on it so far, from: The 13 Neighbourhood Councils in Lambeth, Council for Community Relations in Lambeth, Kings and St Thomas' Community Health Council, Lambeth Trade Council, Lambeth Umbrella Group, Union Place, Herne Hill Harriers, Family Service Unit.

It's terms of reference include:  
a) to ensure proper consultation with the community in Lambeth and the communities involvement in the inner city programme planning and action b) to monitor projects and progress of the Partnership Committee

The next meeting of the

## Heated debate at Meakin

AT A MEETING HELD ON Monday 14th November with tenants of the Meakin Estate and Council officers, the question of heating supplies arose in the discussion.

We were told by Mr J. Thomas, a Council official, that if the heating was off for a period of 7 continuous days we would be entitled to a rebate of one week's heating cost. But if the heating was only off for a period of 6 continuous days, no rebate would be made.

We think that this ruling should be changed. The heating has been going off constantly for 4 or 5 days at a time, and we are concerned for the elderly people on the estate and families with young children.

Mrs Stubbens, Mr Thomas and Mr Flowers, all Council officials present at our meetings, have made repeated promises that this will be rectified, but when asked about this at the last meeting all three seemed to be passing the buck to the contractors and the gas board.

At a meeting held on Thursday 29th September, the same Council officers promised that all repairs to the flats (which have each cost £6000 to be converted) would be done. Up to the present day not one repair has yet been carried out.

So far 8 flats on the estate have been flooded due to burst radiators. Who pays full cost of damages? We have asked for damage to be looked into but it has not been done. Why should we pay rent to walk out our front door into 3 or 4 inches of water. We think we pay too much rent as it is, to have to put up with damp wall-paper falling off the walls, uneven walls, and the smell from blocked up drains.

We ask the Council through SE1 to look into this urgent situation instead of making false promises.

## 1978 Festivals

Are you having a street party or a festival this year?

Lambeth Council have appointed a co-ordinator on behalf of Lambeth residents to assist festival planning with the help of the local people. Two of the areas mentioned are Waterloo and Kennington. The purpose of the project is to organize, with Lambeth support, anything from Fetes and Fairs, to Music and Drama Events, Street Parties, a Real Ale Festival, or Floats for an Opening procession - in fact any ideas to produce fun for everyone in the borough.

Waterloo themselves have had 3 festivals in the last 4 years, but there has been no decision yet if there will be one this year. If anyone is interested in putting on a local festival and would like to help out in the organization, please contact the Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road SE1 26L-1404

## Jumble Sale!

Saturday, Feb 11th at 2.00pm in John Marshall Hall (Christchurch) Blackfriars Rd. In aid of Blackfriars Photography Project. If you have anything to contribute please bring it to Blackfriars Settlement, 44, Nelson Sq or contact Caro Webb, 928-9521.

SE1 is a Community Newspaper. This means it is run by local people who live or work in the area. It is a non-profit making and no one gets paid (not even the newsgatherers or pubs which sell it).

Why not come to one of the meetings listed below where we sort out what will go into the next issue?

### SE1 DATES FOR 1978

Issue No.	Monday meetings	Paste-up	Publication	Month
29	6 & 13 Feb	18 & 19 Feb	24 February	March
30	6 & 13 Mar	18 & 19 Mar	24 March	April
31	10 & 17 Apr	22 & 23 Apr	28 April	May
32	8 & 15 May	20 & 21 May	26 May	June
33	12 & 19 Jun	24 & 25 Jun	30 June	July
34	10 & 17 Jul	22 & 23 Jul	28 July	August
35	7 & 14 Aug	19 & 20 Aug	24 August	September
36	11 & 18 Sep	23 & 24 Sep	29 September	October
37	16 & 23 Oct	28 & 29 Oct	3 November	November
38	20 & 27 Nov	2 & 3 Dec	8 December	December-January

The final copy deadline is always the second Monday evening meeting of each month; stop-press deadline is the day before the paste-up weekend. The meetings start at 7.30 pm, and paste-up starts at 11 am each day, all day, at the SE1 office, 12 Meymott Street, off Blackfriars Road, SE1.



THE OWNERS OF CROMWELL FLATS, REDCROSS WAY, have decided not to modernise the property. The future of Cromwell Flats, a listed building, will probably be on the agenda of the next Southwark Housing Committee Meeting on February 1st.

### London Council of Social Services courses:

"Health and Community Control" Tues. mornings with sessions on Community Health Councils -- watch-dogs or guinea pigs? A health service for who? Do-it yourself-health; fighting for better services. From January 31. "London: The Battle for Jobs and Services" Tues. evenings 6.30-8.30, with sessions on jobs; homes; transport; health; and education. From Feb. 14. Contact LCSS, 68 Chalton St., London NW1. Tel. 398-0241.

## Columbo St Sports & Community Centre

### Official opening

by  
Dennis Howell  
Minister of Sport

ON  
Thursday March 2nd 1978  
at 5.00pm.

Come and see a display of boxing, karate and other sports which local people have already started at the Centre..

EVERYONE WELCOME



SE1 residents have been wondering what the TO LET sign that has appeared on the Copperfield Street Garden, wall means. We have been assured that the garden will not be affected whoever moves into the old All Hallows Church.

## Council scraps jobs

SOUTHWARK COUNCIL ARE TO SCRAP 8 JOBS that have been causing them sleepless nights since they were created. The community workers who work in the area social services offices have, in the Council's eyes, created conflict between the Council and local people. The curious thing about the decision to scrap these jobs is that most of the posts have been vacant for the last 2-3 years, but a report drawn up by the Town Clerk and other officials in the Town Hall has concluded that they must go.

The likely reason for Southwark's action is that in recent years there has been an upsurge in Tenants' Associations and other community groups making demands on the Council. The Council have made the community workers into scapegoats because of their work with tenants and residents groups which often leads them into conflict with their own employers.

The report by the Town Clerk comes at the same time as a report written by The Southwark Community Development Project (CDP), whose main finding is the opposite to the Council's. Their report, "The Management of Deprivation", criticises the Council management and blames them for the increasing conflict with the community. So who is right?

This would be under the direction of a new committee that would also have co-opted members from voluntary organisations sitting on it.

On January 9th the Council decided to adopt the Town Clerk's report scrapping the 8 jobs but they also agreed to reconsider John Lauder's plan.

Councillor John Lauder, vice-chairman of Southwark's Social Services Committee has also drawn up a report which recommends that the jobs should stay and that a department be set up with not only the community workers but also tenants liaison officers and play officers.

## Matters Arising...

LAMBETH WALK SWIMMING POOL has been proposed by Lambeth Council but according to a Council Bulletin "no money is as yet available".

BANKSIDE - the NSCDG are to Appeal against the failure of the GLC to make a decision over the NSCDG application for family housing on the site.

A FLOATING RESTAURANT is planned to be moored off Bankside near Emerson Street. The restaurant is likely to be on board a ship (not the Belfast, maybe the Ark Royal?).

BOROUGH COMMUNITY CENTRE, a group of local people who want to use the old library in Southwark Bridge Road has obtained charitable status and now wants permission to move into the library to use it for a variety of community purposes.

THE NEWINGTON CAUSEWAY/TIVERTON Flats site may end up as an office tower and a token amount of industrial space because Southwark do not think it is "practicable" to have open space and play facilities there.

### ROYAL WATERLOO

Ironically, one of the results of considering what to do with the Lambeth Hospital site looks like being a decision to sell the Royal Waterloo Hospital next to Waterloo Bridge Roundabout. The site-ideal for office development--will be sold to the highest bidder.

Meanwhile, discussions on the Lambeth continue. The Area Health Authority decided not to make a decision - if you see what we mean - on whether a community hospital should be included in the redevelopment. That leaves the issue still wide open. New proposals will be coming from St. Thomas' soon. SE1 will keep you informed.....

WATERLOO ACTION CENTRE are looking for an administrator/shopfront worker for their neighbourhood advice and community centre

Good typing essential and experience of minute taking would be useful but shorthand not necessary. Administration would be for the Centre itself and also for local community groups. Commitment essential. Contact Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road, London SE1. Tel: 261 1404.

## TWO DYNAMIC YOUTH WORKERS

wanted by BLACKFRIARS SETTLEMENT YOUTH PROJECT. The senior post is for a worker to develop the new youth center. The assistant will work with small groups of kids and will be responsible for girls. JNC conditions. Pay negotiable. For details, ring Deirdre Alvey: 928 - 9521. Completed applications by 14th Feb.



A WEEK BEFORE THE FIREMENS STRIKE ENDED, A MYSTERIOUS FIRE gutted Calvert's Buildings, a protected historic building in Southwark Street awaiting office refurbishment. The floors and numerous iron pillars of the old hop warehouse were "listed" as being of historic interest thus greatly increasing the cost of converting into modern offices. The fire conveniently gives the owners a fat insurance claim, removes obstacles to redevelopment, yet preserves the historically important frontage.

## Chemists cure but for whom

5,000,000 POUNDS ARE NOW BEING SET ASIDE TO SUPPORT AND SAVE CHEMISTS SHOPS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY FROM CLOSING. This was the decision that was recently made by the Government, in response to the new national campaign regarding the closure of corner chemist shops.

But where is there money for us in SE1? It was two local groups, the North Southwark and the Waterloo Community Development Groups, who first jointly began the campaign to save small chemists 3½ years ago in 1974, after the SE1 area lost eight chemists over a period of three years.

How can and will this new £5M grant help our residents who have already seen the chemist shops disappear? You can't support something that is not there.

Obviously it will stop the decay, but the rot has already set in in our area. What the National Health Service has now got to do is set aside some of this money - and it should be the majority of the grant - to assist pharmacists to reopen in areas of social need such as ours.

And it is no good getting a map and slide rule out to start saying we have a chemist every two miles as the crow flies. Our pensioners and young mums with kids are not crows and they do not fly. They are faced with the difficulties

### CORRECTION:

IN THE INFORMATION PAGE IN THE LAST ISSUE OF SE1, THE TELEPHONE NUMBER GIVEN FOR THE CONSUMER ADVICE CENTRE IN LAMBETH WALK WAS INCORRECT. THE CORRECT PHONE NUMBER IS 582-2073.

of crossing major roads.

So a lot of thought must be given to where and how chemists should be located. And the only persons who have the answers are the local residents themselves.

Local Authorities should help, especially Southwark Council, by providing premises for chemists, because it is in Borough area of North Southwark where there is a great gap on the map with no chemist in sight.

## So much for an industrial strategy

THE OLD KEYWOODS BUILDING in Union Street near the Post Office is heading for redevelopment following a decision taken at Southwark's Planning Committee last week. Readers of SE1 will remember the article in the October issue about the loss of jobs in Union Street. A report from the North Southwark Community Development Group argued that the proposal to build an office facing Union Street, even though a new factory would be built behind, would create a precedent for other landowners to get offices built on other industrial sites.

At the Committee, John Lauder, councillor for Cathedral Ward, expressed fears of an escalation of offices along Union Street. But Councillor Ron Watts said that there was no way of stopping the development because there were "existing use rights" for offices in the property at the moment. The Scheme was allowed.

It is clear that "existing use rights" are being claimed by developers in order to get permission for redevelopment and that Southwark Councillors are intimidated by this. So much for and industrial strategy.

## YOUR RIGHTS

## Paying the winter fuel bill

If you're on Supplementary Benefit, or FIS (Family Income Supplement), you should already have received an extra £ 5.00 to help you with your winter bill. Your winter bill is the one based on a reading due between Jan. 1st and March 31st. If this bill is for electricity and it is over £20 it is marked 'V'. This means you can claim a discount:

- \* Take it to the Post Office and get a credit voucher.
- \* The voucher will be for ½ of the amount over £20 (e.g. £1 for a £24 bill).
- \* Take or send this voucher to the LEB.

N.B. - If you have a pre-payment meter, or if the DHSS make 'Fuel Direct' payments for you, you can still get the discount.

You can also get lump-sum grants from the DHSS for help with heating - or a weekly addition to Supplementary Benefit. The DHSS may prefer to deduct money from your Supplementary Benefit and make 'Fuel Direct' payments to the Fuel Board. If you disagree with decisions of the DHSS you can usually appeal. If you do, ask for help at BIAS (see below).

When you get a high bill you should also contact the Fuel Board (the phone number is on the bill). Ask them to check the bill on the computer. If the bill was assessed (marked 'A') the meter hasn't been read: ask them to come and read it.

You should write to them asking them to delay action. There is now a 'Code of Practice', which says they can not cut you off -

- \* If you are applying for help with the bill from DHSS or Social Services.

- \* From Oct. to March if everyone in your household is an OAP (and doesn't have savings).

- \* If you agree to pay off the arrears week by week - and cover future bills.

- \* If when they come to cut you off, your circumstances have changed.

- In your letter remind the Fuel Board about the Code of Practice.

IF THEY COME TO CUT YOU OFF: Don't let them in without a warrant. Tell them again about the Code of Practice...

If you have questions about Fuel Bills, contact: BIAS at Blackfriars Settlement 44 Nelson Sq., SE1 Open 10 - 1, 2 - 5 Weekdays except Wed. and Thurs. mornings.



# GIANT NEW OFFICE SCHEME FOR BOROUGH: Consultation a con; local objections brushed aside; Southwark planners approve speculation

THE 'BOARD OF DIRECTORS' OF SOUTHWARK COUNCIL GAVE THE NOD last week to a huge office scheme off Borough High Street between St Thomas Street and Kings Head Yard. The Planning Applications Sub-Committee, acting to all intents and purposes like a board of property developers (with the honourable exception of Councillor Lauder) gave permission for a development consisting of 150,000 sq ft of offices plus some housing units for Guys Hospital.

The officer presenting the scheme to the Committee 'sold' the plan well. He spoke of conservation and 'planning benefits'. The Georgian Society and the Victorian Society apparently approve of it! But he acknowledged that they had not yet worked out how the offices were going to be serviced, in view of the narrowness of Kings Head and White Hart Yards. Nor had they looked in detail at the demolition of historic buildings.

## opposition

There were, however, objections to the office plan. The North Southwark Community Development Group stated in a letter that there was no need for any more offices in the area and that the housing could have been provided by a housing association without the office space. They also pointed out that Guys Hospital would lose office space due to the redevelopment of St Thomas St. Two landowners also objected.

These objections were given short shrift by the 'Board'. Councillor Watts said that the NSCDG views were "dogmatic considerations" and besides he had never come across a situation where all residents felt the same about anything and they did not in this case. Councillor Lauder made a brave attempt to argue that the proposal was premature in view of the public consultation that has been going on about the North Southwark Local Plan. But this too was swept aside by Councillor Watts: "There is no need to go on considering this. The scheme has already been agreed by the Committee informally and by the Conservation Advisory Committee and by the Government because they have given the developers a speculative office development permit." (The announcement that the Guys Trustees plan had been agreed 'informally' by the Committee is news indeed.)

## irrelevant?

Another slap on the wrist, at Councillor Watts prompting again, was for Councillor Lees, who attempted to ask whether Guys Hospital would be able to afford to rent the office space. This was ruled out by the Chairman, Councillor Potter, as irrelevant.

ANOTHER BLACK DAY FOR DEMOCRACY IN SOUTHWARK.

## LONDON'S NEW 'CITY'



The picture above, which adorns the cover of a new glossy publication from Southwark Council, shows the 'board of directors' of Southwark Council: Sam Evans, Chief Executive; Ceri Griffiths, Director of Development; Ron Watts, Chairman of Planning; and John O'Grady, Leader of the Council. These men are responsible for decisions about the future of our area such as that reported in this article - decisions over which the democratic process has no control, it would seem. Questions ruled out of order, and decisions made 'informally' in advance which prevent full 'formal' discussion: anyone might think Southwark was a Tory-controlled borough. Let's hope our new Labour candidates show a determination to end this kind of oligarchical control over our lives and future.

## Edward Henry house Success after a two year campaign

AT LAST THERE IS TO BE A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME TO THE CAMPAIGN to improve the large blocks of flats called Edward Henry House which stand between Cornwall Road and Coin Street.

The flats have stood derelict for over 18 months since the last tenants were rehoused by Lambeth Council. During this time the future of the flats has been under discussion by the various authorities, Lambeth Council, GLC and the Department of the Environment.

### local demands

Local people have been clear from the start as to what should happen, and suggested many months ago that the large block backing on to the houses in Stamford Street should be demolished and the two smaller blocks rehabilitated and modernised. This would both give a number of attractive flats as well as allow the development of some much needed landscaped open space for the residents.

While the GLC dithered about what to do, a campaign was mounted by the Stamford/Aquinas Climsland Tenants Association to put pressure on the local councils to produce plans for the future of the flats and to secure them and stop the accumulation of rubbish and their vandalism in the meantime.

The Association of Waterloo Groups took up the issue of the flats and urged the GLC to implement the proposals for part

demolition and modernisation. Following a meeting with George Tremlett, the GLC leader of the Housing Policy Committee, in October 1977, the GLC promised to take action.

Detailed plans for the flats were drawn up by the Society for Co-operative Dwellings in consultation with community groups and these were presented to the GLC on 12th January 1978 who approved them.

Work will be starting shortly on the £1¼ million scheme to modernise the end blocks of flats and demolish the middle block. In addition to the landscaped open space there will be improvements made to the existing small tenants hall so as to make a proper community centre building. On top of all this the ground floor of the demolished block will be used as the basis for building six family bungalows for disabled people.

### demolition soon

The demolition and building work should be getting under way soon and at the end of the campaign to improve Edward Henry House should see the development of 84 flats in attractive surroundings. Most importantly local people can be involved in matters of design and the flats could be used for rehousing local families and couples who might otherwise be forced to leave the area - for example tenants from Campbell Buildings which is shortly to be demolished.

## TENANTS FORCE POLICY CHANGES

ACTION BY TENANTS IN PRE-WAR ESTATES IN SOUTHWARK HAS FORCED the council to draw up a new policy on the modernisation of estates. The policy offers tenants temporary or permanent transfers, while modernisation is being carried out, or two months rent-free if they remain in their flat. Meetings are being held on every estate to tell people about the new policy, give details of the modernisations to be carried out, and get tenants views.

Tenants in Bermondsey and Rotherhithe were furious at the inconvenience caused by modernisation which takes two months in each flat and is carried out while tenants are still living there. Last October a Tenants Action Committee was formed to force Southwark Council to compensate them for the inconvenience caused and the new policy is a direct result of their pressure.

## incomplete

The Committee is still not calling it a complete victory because the policy has not yet been implemented and there are signs that many people may be excluded from its benefits. The biggest inconvenience to tenants is the renewal of services like electric wiring, plumbing and roofing, yet the council appears to be excluding these from its definition of modernisation. And people living on estates already modernised will not get any compensation.

So far the council has begun to hold meetings with tenants on every estate, but only after these meetings have been held will people begin to benefit. In the meantime the modernisation programme is going ahead. Last month tenants on Arnold Estate nearly took the council to court because roof repairs were left unfinished and rain-water poured in.

## The new policy

The main points in the new policy are:

- 1 Temporary or permanent transfers to other flats.
- 2 Eight weeks rent-free if tenants stay in their flat while modernisation is carried out.
- 3 Consultation with tenants on every estate.
- 4 No rent increase above the level of normal rent reviews
- 5 A 'show flat' on each estate which will also act as a rest room where tenants can go while modernisation is done.
- 6 The council's Estate Officers are to be the main avenue for complaints and problems that tenants have.

