

ACTION STATIONS CALL

INSIDE...

GOLDEN OLDY p2.
WATERLOO SCHOOLS CAMPAIGN p5.
MILLWALL FOOTBALL p5.
MOSER DECISION p8.

North Southwark protests at threat to project

DISMAY AND SHOCK have followed the bombshell decision of Southwark Council to cut off the grant and thus force the closure of the project run by the North Southwark Community Development Group in Great Guildford St. The NSCDG heard on February 17th that they would receive no more assistance after March 31st 1978. This came completely out of the blue, with no warning or consultation or opportunity to talk to the Council.

Advice

The project was set up by the NSCDG, a federation of local tenants associations, settlements, church groups and trades councils and individual residents to inform residents of what was going on in the area and to encourage people to give their views on planning issues, and also to give advice to anyone wanting help with rent rebates, or other problems. Campaigns for public consultation, chemists, shops and open space have been supported by the project.

The project obtained a five year grant starting in December 1973 to finance the running on the Community Planning Centre opposite the old Evelina Hospital. It has been staffed since the beginning by its two full-time workers George Nicholson and Bob Colenutt and run by the NSCDG. It had been anticipated that there would be no difficulty in getting at least a one year renewal of the grant and there was no indication from the Council that the project was being reviewed. The Council's contribution is only £2500 a year, but without this the project does not qualify for the additional £7500 a year from the Department of the Environment.

Trades Unions, tenants associations and trades council and church groups are expected to act swiftly. Local government union branches will be protesting, tenants associations and individual residents are expected to be writing letters of support and Labour Party ward branches are asking for the decision to be reversed and for funding to continue in view of the important work done by the project. A petition has been handed in from community workers elsewhere in London. Bermondsey and Southwark Trades Councils are to protest.

Lil Patrick of the Tooley Street Tenants Association said "This is a blow to tenants associations - the project provides a service to us that is available at any time - who else is going to type our minutes, obtain information for us, and help us with campaigns on shops, chemists, housing and other issues."



A petition is to be organised in the community and you are urged to drop in at the project to sign it.

Please write to the Town Clerk to protest about the closure and in support of the project. Send letters to the Town Clerk, Peckham Road, SE5 or fill in the form below and send it to the NSCDG, 108 Gt. Guildford Street, SE1 who will send it off for you.



Down in Lower Marsh it's business as usual for the stall holders and shoppers who brave the cold weather.

BUSY WEEK FOR FAMILY HOUSING CAMPAIGNERS

THE LONG RUNNING BATTLE TO BUILD GOOD QUALITY FAMILY HOUSING IN WATERLOO AND NORTH SOUTHWARK AT RENTS THAT LOCAL PEOPLE CAN afford received a boost last week with the formation of a campaign by community groups in central London for family housing Groups from Battersea, Covent Garden, Waterloo, North Southwark and Fitzrovia who are all experiencing the same need for housing and pressures for office development have joined together to start the campaign.

The week began with a demonstration by Waterloo residents at the much publicised GLC housing exhibition at the Design Centre. They drew attention to the fact that the GLC have NO plans for building new family housing in central London and are trying to obstruct housing schemes by giving permission for massive office schemes.

Press Conference

The Campaign for Family Housing was officially launched at a press conference on Feb. 15th. All the press, radio and TV were invited; not many turned up but it was reported later in several papers. One journalist/local resident said he thought the press conference was well organised and the issues presented effectively by the representatives of local associations.

Later on that day there was a little piece on Thames at Six which tied in the Campaign with the Public Inquiry into the Morgan Crucible site in North Battersea where the same battles between offices and family housing are being fought out.

The Campaign has produced a report which explains why there is a need for family housing in our communities. The report has been sent to all Ministers, MP's and local councillors. A copy of the report will be sent free to any who writes to the Waterloo Action Centre.

Next Move

The next move for the Campaign is to involve other communities in London and elsewhere in the country. Meanwhile, the battle continues over the future of Coin Street, Bankside, Hays Wharf, Nettlefold and Mosers and other key sites.

DEAR SIR,

I CONDEMN THE DECISION OF SOUTHWARK COUNCIL TO CUT OFF THE URBAN AID GRANT TO THE NORTH SOUTHWARK COMMUNITY PLANNING CENTRE WHICH FOR FOUR YEARS HAS PERFORMED AN IMPORTANT AND MUCH NEEDED SERVICE FOR THE PEOPLE OF NORTH SOUTHWARK.

I ASK THAT THIS DECISION BE REVERSED AND THE GRANT BE CONTINUED.

SIGNED
ADDRESS.....

GOLDEN OLDY

I REMEMBER (how often does one hear these words) a little house, two rooms up and down, 1 Uxbridge Place, Uxbridge St, facing the Coal Wharf behind Elephant and Castle, let at 4/6 per week rates included.

I remember 1908, playing in the empty buses when they were parked by Coal Wharf to await the following peak period, and finding a 5/- piece. In my childhood excitement I ran home to my mother to show her the medal I had found on the buses, and she embraced me, saying, "God is good, that will pay the rent and we can have some fried fish and chips for supper." (Imagine, three fried fish for a penny!)

The next year I was 4 years old and had to go to school. Beside me sat a boy with long black corkscrew curls, wearing a velvet Norfolk suit and hand crocheted collar. His parents were costermongers and lived in Cole Street. They used to walk the streets behind a pony and cart selling green groceries for a living.

On my left sat another 4 year old boy who in later life became the Chief of the City of London Police. In those days each class had examinations and the top boy of all the schools in the area attended a further examination on a Saturday morning at a school in Kennington Lane. The two top boys went to grammar school, the other place winners to a secondary school in St Georges Road.

I progressed through the following two-three years, my parents having moved house twice, once to Disney Place, where I remember going on a day's outing to Riddles Down, the summer outing given by the Sunday School, also playing in Little Dorrit Playground.

Watching the Kaiser and King George riding horseback

Later in 1911 I remember sitting on the kerb in the Borough High Street opposite Rolands sweet shop and watching the Kaiser and King George riding horseback in the funeral procession Edward VII. I also remember Old Father Martin's objection to the seating around the railing of St Georges Church for which he lost his living, but he was admired; for many years after he walked about the area, his clothes in rags and barefooted and still helping the very poor, giving them the gatherings from Borough Market and begging his way through life, sleeping under the arches in Red Cross Street, later to be found dead in an emaciated condition.

Now the second move was to St Margaret's Court, ie from one end of Borough High Street

BILL HEAGREN - in his own hand



they battered one another for some time until one poor black fellow was unfit to defend himself, and all for 5/- wages. On the same bill I also saw Matt Wells, who had returned from America having lost the World Championship. He was matched against Bermondsey Billie Wells, who lost on a disqualification.

In those days London had some very poor families. Women very seldom went out to work after marriage and home work of all kinds was done. For instance my mother used to sew the linings and webbing straps of carpenters bags, and all the family had to get on with it. Each one had a 6 inch needle and cut lengths of twine ready to hand and we would sit round in a ring and pass to each other, these big palm plaited bags after sewing the parts allocated to us.

They would then be tied in bundles of 35 to be taken back to the employer's premises in the City of London on a barrow borrowed from the local green grocer for 2d. This job involved pulling the barrow over London Bridge and into the City, delivering the finished work and collecting the next job. A job could be any number from 1 gross to 18 dozen each collection, and 2 collections a week. Payment was on Mondays for the previous week's work, the second collection to be delivered on Thursday before 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

Fish Porter at 12 years old

The small thought becomes a long story, and so to 1917, when I became a fish porter at 12 yrs of age. My dad would call me at 4 am. A quick cup and wash, old clothes and off over London Bridge to Billingsgate Market to wait on the corner of Upper Thames Street for a ball. This was to help push a barrow load of fish up Fish Street Hill for 2d, and as days passed by I was appreciated for my efforts, so obtaining some regulars. This meant I could earn 3/6 to 4/- per morning, but I had to leave the market at 8 o'clock to run home, change my fish clothes, and put on my school clothes. I also had a job during my school lunch period for which I was paid 2/6 per week, and earned a further 1/9 a week for my duties as head monitor at school, which entailed taking the school washing to Sayers Street School, collecting the boot money (pupils who had some bad times sometimes had no boots and were permitted to buy a good new pair at 3/9, paying 9d down payment and then 3d per week).

The Last Battle Royal

My 11th birthday present from my dad was a big memory. My father got permission for me to have the afternoon off. He walked me to London Road, which at that time had a stall market, and bought me a bag of fruit, and then we walked up Blackfriars Road to the Ring. My father having paid the entrance fee, I found myself being squashed by a hoard of men, mostly market porters from Billingsgate, Borough and Covent Garden. The language was choice.

I found an advantageous position and for the first time I saw professional boxing. The bill I will always remember. It was the last battle royal to be held. Eight black men stood in the ring, one in each corner and one in the centre of the sides. The bell sounded and the fight commenced. As the opponents were knocked down they were dragged from the ring until there were only two left, and

Colombo St. Centre Opens -OFFICIAL

THE COLOMBO STREET SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE is to be officially "opened" on Thursday 2nd March by Dennis Howell, Minister of Sport. Residents and workers in North Lambeth and North Southwark are invited to come along to YOUR Centre.

The old Sainsburys canteen in Colombo Street, SE1, was taken over by community groups after a campaign and several petitions. Sainsburys eventually agreed to open the building for community use and local people immediately moved in, cleared the building and cleaned out the kitchen equipment so that sports clubs could use the building.

The kitchen area has been converted into a gymnasium, whilst the big hall and the meeting rooms upstairs were already suitable for entertainment and meetings.

Conversion of the building has been carried out by the lads from two local job creation schemes, Elephant Jobs of Southwark and Lambeth Neighbourhood Action Team. In this way a project that represents a major gain to the local community has provided employment and training for youth in the two boroughs.

The building has been open for 15 months while conversion was going on. The works and the lack of heating have not dampened the enthusiasm of local clubs.

Much hard work has been put in by people who live in this area to raise funds by making appeals and holding Jumble sales, etc. To date we have received about £12,000 in cash and kind. The boxing ring in the gymnasium is a magnificent gift from UAC International Ltd. IPC, another local firm, has supported the project to the tune of £5,000.

The formal opening of the Colombo Street Sports and Community Centre is a fitting climax to all the imagination and voluntary effort of local people and the generosity of our supporters.

At present there is boxing, badminton, karate, shorinji-kempo, pensioners old time dancing, and women's keep-fit at the Centre. There is room for many more activities because we have the big hall, stage and gym on the ground floor and several meeting rooms upstairs.

Do come along and have a look at the place on Thursday 2nd March and tell us your ideas on what you want to do at the Centre. Some suggestions so far have been films, a drama group, day and evening classes, variety shows... If there is some activity you would like to do at the Centre, contact John (Ernie) Hearn, c/o Waterloo Action Centre (tel 261 1404), lavender, lemon, orange and many other oil-giving plants.

tate, Duchy Street (928 5338).

The Centre has just had some very good news in that Sainsburys has offered a 7-year lease on the building and this is now being drawn up with the assistance of Southwark Council. Hopefully now that the Centre has security of tenure it will be easier to raise money to buy the equipment which is needed to ensure that the activities which local people want can in fact be provided.

The other important development is that the Centre clearly needs fulltime staff if it is to function properly. At the

moment with volunteers assisting it is only possible to open the Centre in the evenings and at lunch-time. The Management Committee has submitted an

Urban Aid application to Southwark and Lambeth Councils for two fulltime staff to help run the Centre and be responsible for its day to day managing. Southwark Council has just agreed to support this and now it is up to the Department of the Environment to make a final decision. Staffing is now crucial to the continued successful development of the Centre and SE1 joins the Management Committee in urging the DoE and local authorities to continue their support for this very important new community resource.



75 Workers Lett Down

LET'S THE DIARY PEOPLE are to close down their manufacturing side at their Borough Road factory. This is to be announced by the company on February 23rd. 75 jobs, half of them for women, are to be phased out over two years.

The company is establishing its manufacturing section in Edinburgh and will retain only their head office and some distribution in London. It is likely that they will seek new premises in London for the office side.

The company are claiming that one of the problems they have is getting skilled printers to replace those who have gone across to work on Fleet Street, where wages are higher. But they admit that they haven't tried hard to replace them or make wages competitive nor do they have a training scheme for young people. So the area suffers again from firms refusing to invest in the future in South-East London.

McNEIL PRESS, of 175 Bermondsey Street, who print record album covers are to close in the near future. More jobs will be lost.

COIN STREET INQUIRY

THERE IS ALMOST CERTAIN to be a public inquiry sometime after May this year to decide whether Lambeth Council can buy the Coin Street sites off the GLC in order that they can build housing there.

Lambeth have issued a Compulsory Purchase Order for the sites to prevent the GLC going ahead with their massive office and hotel plans.

LAMBETH WALK

The views of residents in the Lambeth Walk vicinity are taken seriously by Lambeth Council but not, it seems, by the new Tory GLC.

Residents objected to the Youth Club in Walnut Tree Walk being allowed planning permission to continue. Despite the need for the club and the lack of any suitable alternatives, Lambeth Council upheld the wishes of local people and rejected the application.

However when the Ethelred Tenant's Association wrote to the GLC objecting to their plan to build a boarding annexe in the grounds of Beaufoy School they got nowhere.

The facts about this annexe are very confused, thanks to a stupid GLC letter last year and a story in the South London Press recently which have given the impression it will be some sort of Borstal for 155 kids.

In fact it will accommodate 14 Beaufoy pupils who need a calm atmosphere to study and will be supervised by a resident warden.

Hays Wharf Head 'Misled Shareholders'

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PROPRIETORS OF HAYS WHARF, Sir David Burnett, had just finished his remarks to the sprinkling of shareholders cosseted in the red pile carpets of Hibernia Chambers, London Bridge, when an elderly gentleman rose to his feet and said he wanted to ask some questions.

It is unusual for questions to be asked at a company Annual General Meeting, which are generally social occasions and a meeting place for representatives of investment institutions and friends of the company. For instance a representative of the Kuwait Government was spotted at the back of the hall (they own 33% of Hays Wharf shares).

Shareholders relaxed when the elderly gentleman asked about the wisdom of the company's investment in a fruit farm in Kent. The company directors beamed good humouredly.

But the mood changed abruptly when another shareholder, somewhat fewer shares (SE1 can only afford two) rose to his feet and read out a prepared speech. He said that the Chair-

man had misled shareholders into thinking that the company could build more offices on Hays Wharf. The Chairman had chosen not to mention the Local Plan consultations in which local residents and trades councils were united in wanting municipal housing and open space on Hays Wharf. Sir David hotly denied this allegation claiming that the company "has always taken a conservative attitude to the development of their Tooley Street wharves."

Those who remember the grandiose scheme called "City Within a City" in 1971 which included 2 million square feet of offices and two hotels can be forgiven for flaring up at that remark. Fortunately for the community, City Within a City never happened because of the collapse of the property market in 1974, but smaller schemes have been approved at Hibernia Wharf and Morgans Lane.

As the meeting ended, one elderly shareholder came over to our SE1 reporter and said, "Frankly, I agree with what you say - the company has too much of a property image."

SE1

Residents in North Southwark are faced this month with an attempt by Southwark Council to close down the Community Planning Centre in Great Guildford St. run by NSCDG. Southwark has decided to cut off its grant (only £2500 from Southwark) in an attempt to prevent a continuation of the very useful work the centre has done over the past 4 years to provide local residents with a base for local activities and a source of information on a wide range of local issues. Many local people have used the Centre for advice, and the project has made huge efforts to involve local people in planning issues, as well as distributing Council information. In the last round of local plan meetings 10,000 leaflets were distributed.

The decision by Southwark was taken in a particularly shoddy manner. No councillor or council official has contacted the Centre to find out about the work the office was doing. The NSCDG was not told the Council was reviewing the grant. Nothing was done by the Council to find out what effect shutting the centre would have in the local area. This is astonishing in light of the fact that the North Southwark Local Plan is entering a critical stage.

What is known is that certain local councillors have been saying that they would "get" the NSCDG because the Group was felt to be undermining them, and this seems to have coloured their judgement when deciding on the future of the Planning Centre.

SE1 newspaper is astonished by Southwark's decision and sees it as a further attempt to keep quiet local community associations who are doing an effective job. A widespread effort is now underway from friends and allies of the NSCDG to get the Council to reverse its decision. SE1 urges everyone to fill in the form letter on the front page as soon as possible.

PETITION SWEEP ASIDE

UPROAR BROKE OUT IN THE PUBLIC GALLERY when Southwark's Planning Committee gave permission last week for an office block on the Nettlesfold and Moser site opposite the Borough Tube Station. At the same time that the Committee was considering the office application it was faced with letters and petitions objecting to the scheme.

Residents of Marshalsea Rd. Long Lane and the teachers and staff of St. Saviour's Primary School in Redcross Way had asked the Committee to consider family housing and shops for the site. But at the meeting they were shocked when the Chairman, Councillor Potter held up one of the petitions and said "I think this has come to the wrong Committee."

The public gallery were astonished by this - the petition had been presented three months before and no one had suggested at any time that the petition should be sent to another Committee or was not relevant to the Planning Committee's deliberations over the Moser's site. Councillor Lauder made a vain attempt to salvage something of the residents' case but Councillor Watte suggested they move onto considerations of the design of the office block and within minutes the proposal was given permission.

The public gallery erupted and staggered out of the meeting in disbelief. One resident was heard to say to the Committee "There's not one socialist among you."

The matter is not completely closed however. Several local organisations have written to the Minister for the Environment asking him to intervene. This is a longshot but it's the only chance to save the Mosers site now.

Tanswell residents organise

Tanswell Action Group are a number of tenants from Greet, Santley, Davidge, Cole and Reeves Houses on the Tanswell Estate, Baylis Road, who met initially on February 9th to campaign for improvements on the Tanswell Estate.

Having completed a survey, the most common complaints were:

1. the estate is filthy
2. many flats are damp

KIDS TO WRITE OWN NEWSPAPER

A CHANCE FOR KIDS TO WRITE AND PRODUCE THEIR OWN NEWSPAPER is being offered by SE1 Newspaper. Money is available to finance this project - all that's needed is people to make it happen. The idea is to give local children the opportunity to write, design, take photos, edit and paste-up their own paper which would be distributed with SE1. If you would like to help organise this project or take part in it please contact SE1 now.

** Help also needed with TYPING, WRITING, PASTE-UP, DISTRIBUTION, ADS for SE1.

camera course starts March!

Are you involved in the community, working in a tenants association, a local campaign, youth or community work, or something similar?

If so, the Community Photography Project at Blackfriars Settlement may have something of special interest for you.

As part of Morley College's Social and Community Studies provision, they are about to commence a course of six, weekly four-hour sessions on Community Photography, designed to teach people to take, process and print photographs, and to use them in the course of their work within the community. The aim is to show how photographs can be used, both as a way of showing people outside what your community is really about, and allowing your community to see itself in new and more forceful way.

Further information can be obtained from Caro Webb or Ron Hollis, Photography Project, Blackfriars Settlement, 44-47 Nelson Square. SE1. Tel 928 9521.



Waterloo schools

A JOINT MEETING BETWEEN St. Patrick's and St. Andrew's schools took place on January 31st. Well attended by staff managers, parents, ancillary workers and friends who given their time to help save the two schools, the meeting was very encouraging as it showed that both schools were working along the same lines. They are both threatened with closure by the ILFA.

The managers of the schools were asked if a joint letter could be sent to Margaret Morgan, Chairperson of the ILFA's Educational Sub-Committee and other interested parties, asking that when the schools were discussed at committee level they should be considered together and not as separate entities; the aim being that if in the end only one school can be saved, it could perhaps be a Christian school for this community.

It was also decided that since both schools had organised petitions, these should be continued and hopefully double the 1,000 signatures already collected. So if willing hands knock at your door, please sign the petition, whatever your religious beliefs.

The Managing bodies of both schools are to meet at the Friary for a joint meeting (hopefully the first of many) to

save the schools. Once again, if you have a child of pre-school or primary school age do not hesitate to contact Miss Bennett Headmistress of St. Patrick's, and Mr. Lee of St. Andrew's who will be only too willing to discuss your child's future with you and show you over the schools. The schools won't close next week or in the near future, so give your child a chance with small classes and good teachers.

The next joint Action Committee meeting of both schools will be at St. Andrew's & St. John's school, Roupell Street, at 6pm on Tuesday 7th March. Please give the children and teachers of these schools your full support.

Dear SE1,

During home visits to the nearby Rockingham Estate, I was intrigued to see a "Wicksteed House".

When I was evacuated to Kettering, Northants, as a child during the war, there was a "Rockingham Street" and a "Wicksteed Park".

What is the connection, please, between Rockingham and Wicksteed, and Kettering and Southwark?

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Margaret Bell
195 New Kent Road, SE1

BUS PASSES

SENIOR CITIZENS, who currently hold bus and tube travel permits, should note that March 31st is no longer the expiry date for these permits. They will be valid until new ones can be issued.

A new scheme announced last month by the GLC has had to be postponed until the details can be worked out, and so the current passes will remain valid until that time.

The idea of the new scheme was that each senior citizen would be issued with new passes by the Post Office, for which each of them would be required to provide a photograph. London Transport estimates that £500,000 a year is lost through fraudulent use of permits, and the photo-pass scheme was an idea to cut down this misuse.

Everyone living in Greater London who is of pensionable age is entitled to one of the free GLC bus permits. They give the holders the following concessions in off-peak periods: free travel on London Transport and certain other buses; travel over most of the Underground system at a maximum fare of 20p and travel on the Green Line coaches within London at half fare.

Those who qualify for permits between now and the introduction of the new scheme should apply to their borough Council.

Photo by Blackfriars Youth Photography Project

MFC: you'll never walk alone!

SE1's LOCAL PROS, MILLWALL, find themselves in an unusual position - in the middle of a good cup run but facing relegation.

With three fine wins in the F.A. Cup including a 2-1 win at home against lowly Notts County last night, Millwall have reached the last eight. Yet they are also close to the bottom of the Second Division and face a long hard fight to escape the drop. The signs are, though, that they can do it.



PEDRO RICHARDS

Things have been looking up for the Lions since the arrival of George Petchey as Manager. First there was the 3rd Round replay with Rotherham, when Millwall played with a fire and confidence that had been lacking all season. Petchey gambled on bringing back Trevor Lee and it paid off well as he scored both goals in the 2-0 win. Bryan Hamilton went close three times and John Moore was always willing to push up the attack.

good value

The fact that Millwall created enough chances to have scored six showed that they were good value for their win.

Goals weren't so much of a problem though in the 4th Round tie with Luton. A three day trip to Bisham Abbey to sort out tactics had its effect as the side bombed to a 4-0 win. Ian Pearson and John Seaman worked well as the new attacking spearhead. Pearson crashed in a stylish hat-trick and Seaman grabbed a goal from a neat move following a throw-in.

At home to Brighton in the League in January, Millwall were unfortunate to catch Peter Ward in a rare burst of form. He scored the only goal of the game, but could have had several more if Nicky Johns hadn't had a brilliant match in the Millwall goal.

The home match against

Mansfield was postponed. This was a mixed blessing as it gave an injury to Pearson time to clear up, but denied the Lions a good opportunity to overtake Mansfield in the relegation race.

The Cup form was confined at Southampton on February 11th when Millwall crushed the Division 1 hopefuls 3-2. This was only Southampton's second home defeat of the season and shows what a great boost to Millwall's morale the Cup has been. John Seaman put the Lions into a 1-0 half-time lead and it took a penalty to bring the teams level. Lee and Pearson each scored to make both points safe.

crucial weeks

The next few weeks are crucial to Millwall with games with Charlton, Burnley and Hull. Looking like promotion outsiders before Christmas, Charlton have had a terrible New Year. They haven't won since December 17th and their ace striker Mike Flanagan hasn't scored a goal in eight games.

The most recent form-check, their home game with Oldham, suggested that they may be on the way back. Flanagan, having been called up to the England 'B' squad looked really sharp and laid on one of the goals. Veteran Keith Peacock scored his 100th goal in the 2-2 draw. Ex-Millwall man Terry Brisley is certainly one cause of the

revival. He's tightened up the mid-field but the defence still looks sloppy.

It will be a close game, but Millwall should take at least a point.

The two League games following will be real relegation battles. Burnley visit the Den on February 25th and Millwall travel to Hull on March 4th. Both clubs are in the last four in the Second Division. Millwall must have a great chance of taking both points from Burnley and could well force a draw at Hull. Three points here will lift the Lions to the very edge of the relegation zone, with a game in hand.

And now, with a place in the sixth Round of the Cup it's clear that the season is really boiling up for Millwall.



IAN PEARSON
A hat-trick against Luton Town

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Money For Local Groups?

Community Education

The Inner London Education Authority have money waiting to be asked for in their 'Community Education' budget. It isn't altogether clear what 'community education' means, but it seems to have quite a wide meaning, including anything that develops learning and is based in the community. We were given two examples of the kind of project that might qualify.

Example 1: A tenants group wants to do up a derelict garage to start a youth club and hold classes for young mums, etc, but they have no money.

Example 2: A tenants association discovers that among its members are a dozen people who have suffered some disability, and wants to start a project to help rehabilitate them and integrate them more into the community so they are not just treated as 'on the scrapheap'.

If you have any work that might be considered educational and need money to develop it, try getting in touch with the Community Education Officer at County Hall. And if you want to talk to people with experience of making applications for such grants, SE1 can put you in touch with them.

Self-Help Projects

The Gulbenkian Foundation (a trust set up after the death of Calouste Gulbenkian, who made millions out of the early oil business) has announced a "small grants" scheme to help local self-help projects in inner city areas like Southwark and Lambeth.

Richard Mills, Deputy Director of the Gulbenkian Foundation, said, "Relatively small sums to cover basic organisational costs of postage, telephone, paper, duplicating, photocopying, travel, hire of hall, etc, given in plenty of time, are what seems to be needed. It is to be hoped that local authorities will respond to appeals for help of this kind, possibly out of funds specially allocated for the Inner City Programme. If this approach fails, the Foundation is ready to consider applications for small grants for this purpose."

tions for small grants for this purpose."

The Foundation will be advised in its choice of applications by Paul Curno, who is familiar with this area through his association with Blackfriars Settlement.

Among the kinds of projects the grants are expected to help are:

- Support for the development of individual self-help schemes in employment, housing, education, community services, arts projects, etc
- Publications to transmit experience from one self-help

group and area to another c) Participation in the creation of some machinery of co-ordination, so that local self-help action of one kind or another does not remain local and isolated but becomes part of a national pattern contributing to a national solution.

So if any of you tenants associations, pensioners groups, mums groups, etc, have things you'd like to do but can't for lack of money - you might try writing to Paul Curno, Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, 98 Portland Place, London W1. At worst it can only cost you a stamp!



RESIDENTS OF THE LONG LANE AREA are wondering what is going to happen to the Old Quaker Burial Ground. Last September Southwark Council agreed to spend £12,000 improving the site: nothing's happened so far, and meanwhile buildings & facilities deteriorate.

SE1

12 Meymott Street, SE1.
tel: 928-1643

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

The newspaper is open to anyone to contribute - news, photos, articles, stories, letters, etc.

Editorial and management decisions are taken at the meetings (see below) which are held twice monthly and are open to anyone who lives or works in SE1.

Remember we rely on you for the news and gossip of SE1 so send us your information or give us a ring.....

MEETINGS

Mondays 6th and 13th March, 7.30 at 7.30pm at the above address.

LAST DAY for articles to go into the next issue is Monday 13th March. STOP PRESS articles by 17th March.

Help prepare the paper - great fun typing, thinking up headlines and giving down the stories - weekend of 18 & 19 March, 11am to 5pm, 7pm or whenever we finish.
NEXT ISSUE on 24th March 1978.

HOW THE NEW PENSION SCHEME AFFECTS YOU

A new pensions scheme is to come into effect in April, whose intention is to provide pensions which are 'inflation-proof' and earnings-related, and which ensure a 'minimum guaranteed pension' for everyone.

The new scheme will have two 'levels' to it: a basic pension and an additional pension.

The BASIC PENSION is equivalent to the present flat-rate national insurance pension, and on full contributions will provide a basic-level pension that will be adjusted according to national average earnings - at present it stands at £15.30 per week.

The amount of the ADDITIONAL PENSION is calculated on the average weekly earnings over the best paid 20 years of the pensioners working life. For each of these years they take the average weekly earnings, deduct the current basic pension amount (£15.30 now) and any amount over £105, and then take 1% of the remainder.

Complicated? Of course - we don't want all our pensioners sitting around at the end of their working lives with nothing to worry about.

Here's an example: suppose in your best year of earnings your average weekly income was £111.50. Anything over £105 doesn't count, so you're left with 15.30. Deduct the basic pension: 15.30 - 69.70 = 45.80. And take 1% of £45.80 = £4.58.

This means that you would get £1.22 per week of additional pension in respect of that year. This same calculation is done for each of the 20 best years average earnings, and all 20 years' results added together make up the 'additional pension'. Once established, this part of your pension would be increased in line with prices.

If you haven't paid 20 years contributions before you retire, you would get only a proportionate part of the additional pension.

RETIREMENT AGE remains the same: 60 for women, 65 for men. Those who retire after these ages will receive some additional pension.

A WOMAN will pay the same contributions and get the same pension as a man with the same earnings. If she stays at home her basic pension rights will be protected as long as she has paid 20 years' contributions - but less than 20 years will mean a proportionate reduction in basic pension.

Married women and widows who now have the option to pay reduced contributions will be able to continue doing so, but benefits will be correspondingly reduced.

Where employers have their own pension schemes for their employees, the new Act states that company schemes must provide pensions at least as good as the 'minimum guaranteed pension', and every employer

has the option of 'contracting out' of the additional pension part of the state scheme, or 'contracting in' to it.

In practice this means that if an employer can do better by providing a company pension scheme, that is allowed as long as it is at least as good as the state scheme.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO ABOUT THIS NEW SCHEME?

1. If you're in a trade union: find out whether the employer has 'consulted' your shop steward yet about 'contracting in' or 'out'. This will probably already have been done - or at least begun. If not, get your shop steward to find out why not.

2. If you're not in a trade union: your employer should probably have already notified you of an intention to contract in or out, either by a personal letter or a notice displayed prominently somewhere. If not, find out why not and what is happening about this.

3. You, or your shop steward, should find out - by getting advice if necessary - whether the employer's decision is in your best interests.

For more information, you can get DSS3 pamphlets NP23 and NP30 from your local Social Security office; and Occupational Pensions Board memoranda Nos 29, 30 & 31, from the Occupational Pensions Board, Apex Tower, New Malden, Surrey.

your health!

THE WATERLOO HEALTH PROJECT has now been going for 8 months. Is your health any better for it?

This article is to remind you what the health project is about and to let you know how you might make use of it.

The health project was set up because it was generally believed that people could get more satisfactory health services if they were aware of all the facilities that were provided by the National Health Service and Social Services; understood more about their own bodies and their health problems; and understood the reasons for administering certain treatment and how it supposed to work.

If people understood more about these things and how to take better care of themselves so as not to get ill, they might be healthier and also recover more quickly when they were ill. This increased understanding of health, illness and treatment might mean that people would be more satisfied with their treatment and also be able to suggest improvements if they were not very happy with their treatment.

It is only considered to be minor, can be very nerve-racking, especially if you have never been to hospital before. Anyone waiting to have an operation is welcome to come and see Jane to have a chat about what the operation might involve, how long they might be in hospital, etc. Eventually an information network can be started where people will be able to chat to each other if they've had certain illnesses or similar operations. For example, if a woman is uncertain about having a breast operation and would like to hear what it involves and how it might affect her, she could go to chat with someone who has already had the operation and is willing to tell her what it is like. Similarly if a man is considering having a vasectomy (male sterilisation), but is not sure what the effects would be, he could visit a man who has already had it done.

Rheumatism Anti-smoking

In the next month or so there will be a day's workshop on Rheumatism. Rheumatism is something that many people suffer from as they get older and at the moment there is very little one can do to relieve the pain. There will be a film shown that talks about sciatica, lumbago, slipped discs, arthritis, gout, etc. It shows what happens and what might be done about some of the more common complaints. There may also be a speaker and there will be an opportunity for people to sit and chat together over a cup of tea. Anyone suffering from some kind of rheumatism or anyone who is interested is welcome to come along. The date of the meeting will be advertised in the next issue of SE1.

FREE CONTRACEPTIVES are available ON THE NHS for all men and women

at the Barley Mow Community Clinic, Tanswell Estate, Waterloo (on the corner of Pearman Street and Frazier Street)

● every Monday evening from 5.45 to 7.45

● every Thursday evening from 5.45 to 7.45

Just walk in - or ring 674 3502 for an appointment or further information.

Other possible meetings on health topics are planned, such as on Menopause, and possibly Cystitis. If you have any ideas of subjects you would like to have a public meeting or a discussion about, please let Jane Miller know. Also if anyone is interested in starting an anti-smoking group in Waterloo could they let Jane know. She is usually at the Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road, SE1 (261 1404).

Jane Miller,
Waterloo's
Community
Health Worker.



DROP IN at Campbell Buildings

Every Thursday morning at the Campbell Buildings Tenants Association, Flat 272 Campbell Buildings; anyone is welcome to drop-in for information, advice or a chat about their health.

- * DO YOU KNOW HOW TO CHANGE YOUR GP?
- * ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT HAVING AN OPERATION?
- * DO YOU KNOW HOW TO MAKE A COMPLAINT ABOUT THE NHS?
- * DO YOU KNOW WHERE THE NEAREST CHIROPPODIST IS?

If you would like to chat generally about your health or would like some information about health facilities in the area or advice on what you should do or what you are entitled to, drop-in on Thursday mornings to see Jane Miller at Flat 292, Campbell Buildings. Jane is available the rest of the week at the Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road, SE1 (261 1404), where there are now a large number of leaflets and other information about health available.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT

Town Hallsits on special report

IT'S NO SECRET THAT THERE AREN'T ENOUGH JOBS TO GO ROUND.

The bare statistics show more than 7000 people in Southwark are registered unemployed and more than 8000 in Lambeth. The percentage of male unemployment is higher than in London or Great Britain as a whole; there are six unemployed people for every vacancy notified to the Labour Exchanges.

What is kept under wraps are the deliberations of 'the powers that be' in deciding what to do about this drastic situation. Why is the Town Hall sitting on a specially prepared report about youth unemployment in Southwark? Why weren't youth workers - and kids - trades unionists and other relevant groups asked for their ideas? Will they be given a chance to comment before decisions are taken about implementing its recommendations?

The jobs crisis and the policies taken to combat it affect everyone in one way or another. SE1 believes that the problems and proposed solutions demand the widest possible debate and community involvement. In the coming months SE1 will

be carrying a special series on the jobs crisis:

- what causes it... why are industries closing down and leaving Southwark? Why aren't they being replaced?
- who is being hit... unemployment affects various groups in different ways - the young; women; blacks; the unskilled.
- what is being done about it? What initiatives are being taken by Central Government, the GLC and Southwark Council? What are the Trades Council, community groups and other organisations doing?
- what could be done that isn't happening? What can we, all of us, do to make sure things do happen?

We shall also be reporting on the work of the 'Employment Development Officer' about to be appointed by Southwark Council for Voluntary Service to work with voluntary groups in the Borough with the aim of spreading public awareness about the issues. The post is one of a London-wide scheme, with money coming, appropriately enough, from the Government's Job Creation Project.

Community Health Council

Final consultation document
for the future of Lambeth.

Hospital are now available at

the CHC offices or at the
Waterloo Action Centre,

14 Baylis Road

Waterloo Plan

Lambeth Rejects Scheme

A SPECULATIVE OFFICE BLOCK WAS BANNED AT THE INSTIGATION OF WATERLOO RESIDENTS LAST MONTH. IN STARK CONTRAST TO NORTH SOUTHWARK WHERE GUY'S HOSPITAL WERE ALLOWED PERMISSION TO BUILD ANOTHER MONSTER OFFICE COMPLEX AGAINST LOCAL PEOPLE'S WISHES (see last month's SE1), ST. THOMAS' WERE REFUSED PERMISSION FOR THEIR OFFICES BY LAMBETH COUNCIL.

This encouraging decision was a direct result of all the hard work over the last five years or so in public meetings hammering out the Waterloo District Plan.

It was because the Tommy's spec offices didn't conform to this plan that Lambeth threw it

out. The Plan says emphasis must be on family housing, and offices are to be severely restrained.

St Thomas' Trustees tried to argue that the District Plan didn't really count, but were soon put in their place. The Plan has the force of law, which is why it was vital to fight for it.

Now that effort is paying off. St Thomas' have only themselves to blame; SE1 is aware that the Draft Plan was specifically drawn to their attention at the consultative stage, which was the right moment for them to earmark the site for office development, but that they didn't bother to discuss it. Somebody boomed.

Lambeth Council standing firm by their electors shows just how miserable a sell-out Southwark have made.

If the people of North Southwark doubt that the fight against offices is worth it, they only need look over to Waterloo for inspiration.

Pushchair Appeal

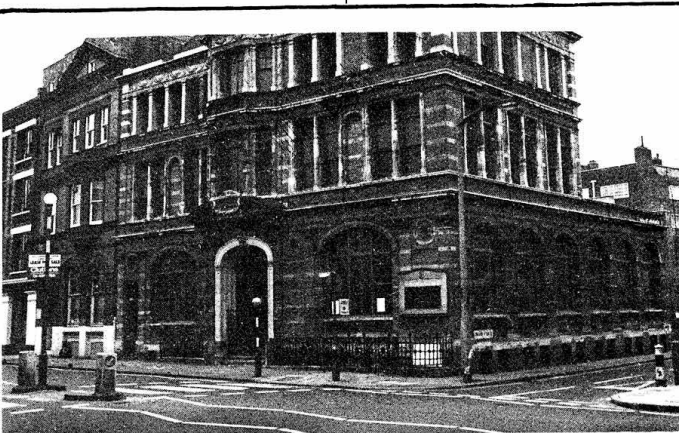
WOULD ANY SE1 READERS WITH OLD PUSHCHAIRS PLEASE CONTACT THIS OFFICE, AS SEVERAL ELDERLY RESIDENTS HAVE RECENTLY MADE ENQUIRIES AS TO WHERE THEY MIGHT BE ABLE TO GET ONE. THEY ARE VERY USEFUL FOR THOSE LONG TREKS TO THE LAUNDRETTE AND SHOPS. THANKS VERY MUCH.

GOODWIN - NO TO GLOBE

SOME THINGS NEVER SEEM TO GO AWAY. Last week the GLC considered 'informally' a proposal for Bankside (on the riverside between Blackfriars Bridge and Southwark Bridge) which included - guess what - an office block and a Globe theatre.

Yes, all that again after we thought the idea had finally been laid to rest by the old Labour GLC. The new scheme is only at proposal stage but it runs into direct conflict with plans of the community for family housing on the site.

It is very likely that the reason why the developers, Freshwater Property Group and Southwark Council, have sought the views of the GLC at this stage is to provide them with some ammunition when the family housing plan reaches a public inquiry - which it will do if



GOOD NEWS COMES FROM THE COMMITTEE who have formed to run the old Southwark Bridge Road Library as the Borough Community Centre. The Council's General Purposes Committee on February 15th agreed to fund the Centre for a year. This means paying rent, rates and heating, and it is up to the Committee and the local community to see if the Centre can become self-supporting. In addition, an application for an Urban Aid grant has been made to the Council to run the Centre for a longer period but this has to be agreed by a Government department and the decision will not be known for a couple of months.

However, now that the Council has given permission to use the building and some financial support, the Committee is keen to start work on cleaning it up and making it usable. Basically the building is in good order but it needs redecorating and fitting out with facilities that will make usable for residents wanting to hold socials, meetings or run clubs. Residents wanting to help in any way should contact Linda Kerley at 17 Ayres Street, who is the secretary

WATERLOO FESTIVAL 1978!??

People in the Waterloo area are already thinking about a Festival for this summer. But, if there is to be one this year help is needed NOW, it seems.

Last year various groups and organisations had their own Jubilee Street Parties - some

of these groups and individuals it is thought, might like to help in organising one large Waterloo Festival this year.

Your ideas and suggestions are needed for stalls, shows, children's games, music, food etc. And if you want to help, contact the Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road, SE1. Tel: 261 1404, as soon as possible, so plans can be got underway for the Festival.

Office or Hotel ?

TWO REPORTS ON THE HALF-FINISHED BANKRUPT HOTEL at Kings Reach appeared last week. The first was that the owners were attempting to get planning permission to convert the building into offices. The second story is that an American Hotel chain called Marriot Hotels are negotiating to buy the hotel.

Matters Arising....

THE OXOID FACTORY on Southwark Bridge which has been empty for three years may be demolished to make way for an office with a factory unit behind.

HOPTONS ALMSHOUSE flats are being modernised to make them more attractive to local pensioners - not enough people are applying for the Almshouses.

DAVID GREIGS - Lambeth are insisting that the supermarket be replaced when the offices are rebuilt on Waterloo Road. But there is no progress at the moment because the developer has gone bankrupt.

THE WATERLOO ROAD OPEN SPACE should be landscaped by 1979/80.

HERCULES ROAD-COSSER ST. HOUSING. The City of London have received permission to build new housing here and to rehabilitate existing shops and flats.

NO WINNER FOR THE £25 PRIZE for the best idea for improving Waterloo has yet been found. The money comes from Lambeth's "Inner City" money. Send ideas to Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road, SE1.

HATCH ROW, ROUPELL STREET. Slow steady progress is reported on plans for a tenants co-operative scheme, mainly for families.

EDWARD HENRY HOUSE agreement to part demolish and part improve with families on the ground floor and people without children above has met with a hold-up in the Depart. of Environment. EVENING NEWS SITE, next to the National Theatre is to be developed for offices by Associated Newspapers. Originally the office was to be for Reuters Press.

WRITE

to SE1. Send your news and views to SE1, 12 Meymott St, SE1 or give us a ring: 928 1643.

Waterloo Amenities Group

Special Variety Show For Pensioners

WATERLOO AMENITIES ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT : a variety show will be held at the YOUNG VIC, The Cut on Wednesday March 15th at 2 o'clock.

The cast includes **Leslie Randall** from TV with a supporting cast. Tickets available at the door price 25p.

The shows at the Young Vic have always been a success so make a note of this one.