



# IT'S A SELL OUT

## Secretary of State gives office permit for Coin St sites

"PETER SHORE HAS PLAYED INTO THE HANDS OF THE G.L.C. TORIES and their property developing friends. He has shown himself unwilling to stand up for the interests of ordinary people who are fighting to save their communities." This is how the residents of North Lambeth and North Southwark reacted to the decision of the Environment Minister, Peter Shore, to give office development permits to companies which plan to build speculative office schemes on the Coin Street sites between Stamford Street and the Thames.

These are the sites which local residents have been fighting for years to have used for family housing, and which they persuaded Lambeth Council to agree should be used for this purpose.

### Public Inquiry

The granting of permits does not automatically mean that the offices will go ahead, since there will have to be a public enquiry into the future of the sites. But at the same time as the permits were announced, it was announced that a Lambeth Council application to compulsorily purchase the controversial sites from the GLC (in order to ensure that housing is built on them) was to be put 'into abeyance' for the time being.

This ensures that the public enquiry over the whole future of the sites will not now take place until the office developers have put forward their plans--and that means, not until after the general election. So what he has done is to pass the buck to the next government, instead of coming out with a clear statement of support for the views of local people.

Shore had the alternative of acting on the compulsory purchase application, ordering an immediate public enquiry--and putting the developers application of office permits 'into abeyance' until after the enquiry took place. This is what he was pressed to do by the local community, by Lambeth and Southwark Councillors, and

by MPs Mellish and Strauss.

Shore has chosen to risk the anger of ordinary people in the area, rather than stand up to the Tories and the property interests. Stuart Holland, the prospective Parliamentary candidate for Vauxhall, commented: "I utterly deplore this decision. Such a classic service to speculative profit makes one wonder why property interests think they need a Tory Government."

In apparent contradiction with the Coin Street announcement the Department of the Environment has also announced

a very welcome decision about the Waterloo District Plan. This is the plan for the whole Waterloo area, drawn up by Lambeth Council after long consultation with local and community groups. The plan says that office development should be severely restricted in the District, and that there should be housing on the Coin Street sites. Peter Shore has now said that this is to be the only legal plan for the Waterloo District.

This is viewed as a major

Continued on page 7, column 4.

## Write on kids

SE1 Community Newspaper is to bring out a special KIDS ISSUE. The idea is to give the young people of the area an opportunity to produce an issue of their own--and perhaps get enough interest to produce some material regularly for SE1.

SE1 readers are urged to tell any young people they know in case they might want to have a go.

There will be a meeting at 7:30 pm at 12 Meymott St. to plan the 4-page paper on Monday, September 4th. Anyone interested should be encouraged to come along.

The paper will actually be put together on Saturday, September 16th.

For more information, ring 928-1643.

Photo by Charterhouse Girls



ODD SQUAD IN BERMONDSEY,

LEFT: MAD CREATIONS UNDER WAY,

RIGHT: VIKINGS INVADE BERMONDSEY.

## Odd Squad invades Bermondsey

The first three weeks of the school holidays were enlivened by the invasion of Bermondsey by 'ODD SQUAD' - which consisted of eight mad students from Bretton Hall College in Yorkshire. They joined forces with numerous mums who were all keen to give help and encouragement, and made a formidable onslaught on the area which will not soon be forgotten. The bad weather during the second two weeks did nothing to dampen anyone's enthusiasm, even on the day when a thunderstorm drenched everyone and caused a rapid retreat indoors.

In the mornings the students entertained the kids - and anyone else who happened to pass by - with their street theatre. The kids followed the antics of Poogle, a pre-historic man, on a journey through time as he

discovered the Romans, Vikings, Elizabethans and even punk rockers. In the second week, there were 2 totally incompetent magicians - Twist and Shout by name - who, aided and abetted by Stevie Star (yet another 'super-hero') brought havoc to the lives of Ricki Dee 'cooler than Fonzerelli' and Co. This eventually resulted in a very messy custard pie fight.

The final extravaganza was devoted to the evil Ray Gamma, who was chased around the universe by Jason Pleasant dressed in his silver wellies, and who, because he kept falling asleep, needed a lot of assistance from the kids to help him retrieve the Golden Key to Bermondsey, and defeat the strange Gamma Gang and the monster Krakatoa, which had two heads, two long noses, and

twenty toes! Bermondsey reverberated with the sound of kids chanting and singing songs.

During the afternoons anything between seventy and a hundred kids were found busily occupying themselves creating weird and wonderful masks, puppets, ray guns, punk glasses hats and helmets, out of every conceivable piece of household rubbish, such as plastic bottles, milk bottle tops, egg and cigarett boxes, and masses of paint and paper. Kids of all ages rushed around covered in face paint dementedly playing games, encouraged in all this by the 'ODD SQUAD', who were themselves very 'odd'. Since they have returned to 'Odd Land' a deep silence has fallen across Bermondsey, and they are sadly missed by many kids and a few mums too!

## YOUR VOICE · YOUR VIEWS · YOUR NEWS

### A Civilised Society?

New radio-controlled scheme in Bermondsey

Dear SE1  
Until recent years, the outcasts of society in this country have not been the criminals or the mentally ill, or the gypsies, but the old. In fact, there is a simple equation: the more 'civilised' a society gets, the less it looks after its old people.

There are many reasons for this, but the main ones are straightforward. The old do not have a powerful lobby amongst MPs; but more importantly, none of us who are not old have any experience of it. We have all been children, most of us have struggled to get a job, to get a house, been ill, or even flirted with the law in one way of another - but we haven't been old. There is always that vague feeling that we are immortal, and will never grow old, and anyway it's in the future. That can look after itself, let's worry about the present first.

#### Old hope

Nowadays things are gradually changing. Not fast enough, certainly for those who are old now, but perhaps in time for our old age. In 20 or 30 years' time, it might be absolutely obligatory to look after the old, and give them a decent life and a dignified old age. Until then, however, the things that need to be done have to be patched together by volunteers (who care) and local government (which at least has some money).

In Bermondsey at the moment, a scheme is starting up that tries to protect the lives of old people at risk who are living on their own and who do not have enough relatives to look after them round the clock.

It is an emergency scheme - is the old person call for help, and someone is sent round. It works by radio signal: the old people have a radio transmitter in the home, and in an emergency (ie being taken ill, falling down, stuck in the loo) they simply press a button and a signal is received in an office which will have someone in it 24 hours a day, seven days a week. When such a signal comes through, the person in the office consults a list of

Neighbourhood Volunteers, and tells one of them that Ms Blogs needs help. They then call round as soon as possible to see what's wrong.

#### Council pays

This scheme is completely financed by the Council, and will run for 9 months from October 2nd.

Although the Council are looking after the finance, the 'Central Unit' team - which will monitor the calls in the office - and the Neighbourhood Volunteers team - who will answer the emergencies - will both be composed completely of

local volunteers. SO IF YOU FEEL YOU COULD MAKE AN INVESTMENT OF A FEW HOURS FOR EITHER TEAM (OR BOTH), please contact: Ian Harris, Bermondsey Community assistance Pilot Project, Lena Fox House, Crimsott Street, SE1 Telephone 237 0606.

We'll all be old soon.

SE1 Note: SE1 will follow the progress of this experiment with special interest. It has been organised by the Bermondsey Forum, as a part of their efforts to build up the neighbourhood into the supportive community it once was.

### SE1 too vague on Dossers

Dear SE1,

In the editorial in your June issue, commenting on the reactions of residents of North Southwark to the proposal for a new site for the St. Mungo's hostel for homeless men

(formerly in the Marmite factory in Vauxhall), you came out strongly in support of the residents' protests. You said: "Residents are angry at the fact that, as with so many other plans which directly affect the lives of local, there has been no consultation over this proposal". You add that there are fears about the consequent increase in the number of dossers in the area, and "the effect this will have on (the residents') own lives and those of their children."

You further suggest that the proposal is evidence that the authorities want to let the area run down still further by dumping all problems into it - so that they can then pull it all down and redevelop it for the benefit of big business and tourists.

We at this office certainly sympathise with the first and third points above; we are less certain about how justifiable are the fears that dossers are (by implication) child molesters, or any more destructive or anti-social than people who have homes.

#### Conscience

Halfway through your editorial, you seem to have got a twinge of conscience about this point too. You refer to the hostel as being not only wrong for the area, but 'wrong for the dossers themselves', and you go on to talk about the inadequacy of hostels catering for vagrants, whom you identify as 'working people who get broken on the wheels of the profit-making machine that dominates all our lives'.

Two points here: Firstly,

sure, hostels are inadequate, sometimes pretty awful places. The Marmite is no Ritz. At the same time, it has to be recognised that the people running these places are working under a terrific strain and under impossible conditions themselves - and that were it not for places like the Marmite, men would be sleeping in the streets. Secondly, there is a contradiction between your definition of dossers as victims of the capitalist system (which we agree with) and the hostile, negative response to them that you support in the first part of the article. Homeless people are going to continue to be despised and 'kicked from one place to another' so long as this attitude persists.

It's no good just saying vaguely 'better facilities should be provided'. People should be putting energies they are investing in the 'Keep the dossers out' movement into a pressure and campaigning body which will actually try and achieve better conditions for the homeless. Perhaps the person who should be taking a lead on this is Bob Mellish, the local MP, reported to be taking an active part in the anti-hostel movement.

You are correct in identifying the dossers as working class people who have been victimised. The tragedy is that the capitalist system retains power by setting one section of the working class against the other - by encouraging the 'respectable' working class (eg the residents of North Southwark) to despise and reject people who are on the bottom line. To finish on a regrettable truism: THERE ARE NO EASY ANSWERS.

Yours  
Consortium, Cambridge House, 131 Camberwell Road, SE5.

### Lodgings

Dear SE1,

At Lancelot Andrewes House, we have several residents who are able to work full-time and pay for their keep.

Some of these men would find living alone too difficult and are looking for lodgings with quite easy-going households or families who could provide a single room, some prepared meals and a bit of company.

Terms would be agreed in advance and we would fix a trial period to see if the arrangement is suitable.

Any of your readers who would like more information can send me a letter and I will arrange to visit them.

Peter Cronin  
Resettlement Officer  
Lancelot Andrewes House,  
96, Gt. Guildford St.  
London, S.E.1

### What a figure!

Dear SE1,

Can you explain why, in your August issue, your front page headline repeats the outlandish claim that Southwark houses 67% of London's hostel places? Surely someone in your editorial department should have sensed instinctively that such a preposterous figure could not possibly be close to the truth. The real figure should be 14% - if one is speaking of hostel and common lodging house places - or 20% if one includes the Camberwell Reception Centre whose lease in any case expires in 1984.

The Office of Population Censuses and Surveys could have provided you with more accurate figures, as well as the news that Southwark actually provides fewer hostel places, exclusive of the reception centre, than do Camden, Tower Hamlets or Westminster.

In effect, you have served to stir up people's exaggerated fears of single homeless people. As long as people have such false pictures of their real situation, nothing constructive can ever be done to provide the homeless with what they are entitled to.

Yours faithfully,

Pat Logan  
Southwark Diocesan Council  
for Social Aid,  
131, Camberwell Road,  
LONDON SE5 0NF

SE1 REPLIES:  
67% is hard to believe, we admit. We are investigating that figure and will either back it up or offer the true percentage next month in SE1.

## BEST for Bermondsey

A NEW PROGRAMME to support the elderly in Bermondsey is starting operation in September. Bermondsey Elderly Support Team, or BEST, hopes to help elderly people remain in their homes for as long as possible and to help alleviate loneliness experienced by so many elderly people.

These objects will hopefully be achieved by doing "one-off" practical jobs in the home, such as mending fuses. The team will consider organising street warden schemes, working with local churches and schools to encourage the expansion of voluntary help, arranging activities for the housebound, offering support to caring relatives, etc.

The team will also run a pop-in parlour which will initially open on a part-time basis, and will provide tea, coffee, snacks, etc. at low prices. The Pop-In will also be a place where elderly people needing advice or help can call in to discuss any problem they may have.

### Odd jobs

Referrals for odd jobs to be done will be taken from the elderly themselves, friends, neighbours, GP's, social workers, kers, and health visitors.

The area to be covered will be from Tower Bridge Road to the West to Southwark Park in the east, and from Old Kent Rd and Rolls Road in the south all the way north to the river.

BEST was conceived of by the Bermondsey Forum, a group of people in the area who came together three years ago because of their concern for the care and welfare of the elderly.

The Forum together with Area II Community Worker, Jud Barker, invited Age Concern Southwark to participate in the scheme, which has a three year Urban Aid grant. Seven workers are being hired: an organiser, five field workers and an administrative assis-

tant.

Until they are settled in their premises in Spa Road when it is vacated—hopefully within a few weeks—any enquiries can be made to Age Concern Southwark, 33 Peckham Road, London SE5. Phone 703-6105/6.



### TOOLEY ST POP-IN

Councillor Charlie Coveny, chairperson of Social Services, Lil Patrick, chairperson of Tooley St. Tenants Association, Councillor George Nicholson of North Southwark Community Planning Centre, Ralph Cooper, local resident (all standing) and Mary, Tooley St. tenant (tenant) celebrate the opening of the Tooley St. Pop-In at 2, St. Olaves House. The flat was donated by Southwark Council for use by the TA executive committee and as a pop-in for pensioners living in Tooley Street. Open Wednesdays 2-4:30.

### OXOID OFFICES -

#### Residents get short shrift

The 40 letters from residents of Sumner Buildings received short shrift from Councillors on Southwark's Planning Applications Committee when they met to discuss an application for the Oxoid site in Sumner Street. The application was accepted, despite objections from local councillor George Nicholson.

Despite the clear evidence of the real needs of the local residents - expressed in their many letters calling for shops, housing and open space - Committee Chairperson Potter

ventured to suggest that the application for a large office development with a small industrial unit behind it did in fact provide what residents were asking for.

Councillor Watts - no friend of SE1 residents - again suggested that it was not the applications for offices that made problems for the people living in the area, but the people who are living in the area that are the problem, as they shouldn't be there.

### TENISON STORES

**SPAR SHOP** Tenison Way opposite St Johns church Waterloo road

'Cheapest Grocers in Waterloo'

Wholesale & Retail



# How the cuts were made

A new report by Southwark Trades Council that gives the facts and figures of cuts in Southwark

Social Services Capital expenditure has fallen from £1.5 million in 1974-75 to £218,000 in 1977-78. 25 projects have been axed including 7 day centres for the elderly, hostels for the mentally handicapped and mentally ill and Meadow Row day nursery. There are 13,000 children under five in the Borough but only 495 Council day nursery places for them.

In 1977-78 there was a 1% cut overall in the Council's budget. Some of the effects were:

- \* Home help budget reduced by £68,000.

- \* The Libraries' book fund reduced by £23,000.

- \* Swimming pools closed on Sunday mornings, mornings during school term time and open air pools open only 13 weeks instead of 19 weeks a year

- \* £60,000 cut from the maintenance of parks and recreation grounds

- \* £70,000 saved by redecorating inside council flats every 7 years, instead of 5 years.

- \* Housing repairs spending reduced by £20,000

- \* Maintenance of roads and car parks was cut by £105,131 with a loss of 28 jobs. The Council's comment was "deterioration in footpaths and roads, concern for basic highway standards and risk of increased accidents".

This year, 1978-79, was supposed to be the year of nil growth but further cuts were made in housing (£12,000 less for repairs and maintenance - "tenants might have to wait a little longer for certain repairs") and roads (another £62,580 cut in maintenance).

## Reductions

Of all the services that the Council provides, the Trades Council is most critical of the Social Services spending, partly because the Council frequently claims its Social Services are second to none in the country.

As well as the reduction in the Home Help service mentioned above, holiday grants to the elderly were withdrawn, the subsidy for child minding fees was stopped and although reinstated after trade union pressure is now only available on an extremely limited basis.

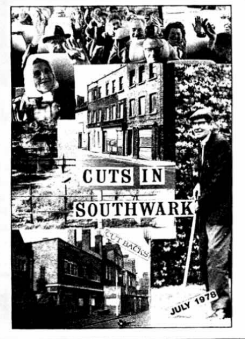
The charge for Meals on Wheels was raised from 10p to 20p resulting in a fall in the number of meals taken from 4366 to 3144.

But the actual cuts are less important than the lack of necessary growth especially since the demand for social services inevitably increases at a time of recession and high unemployment and Southwark's provision of several services is well be-

All of us have been affected by "The Cuts" - the massive cutback in public spending started by the Government two years ago at the height of the economic crisis - even if it is just by tripping over paving stones in the street.

Now the Southwark Trades Council have published a report detailing how Southwark Council has wielded its axe on its own spending. When the Trades Council met Southwark MPs last year to lobby against the cuts, Bob Mellish, MP, doubted the existence of cuts in Southwark and challenged them to get the details. This report should make him eat his words.

The report is available from Southwark Trades Council, Lansbury House, 41 Camberwell Grove, SE1. Price 20p plus postage.



low most other Inner London Boroughs. In 1976-77 Southwark supplied 870 personal aids for disabled people (3.9 per 1000 population). Only Hackney (560, 2.9 per 1000) was lower. Islington supplied 2234 (13 per 1000) and Wandsworth 4379 (15.4 per 1000).

Furthermore, says the report, the level of cuts must be considered together with staffing levels. In February 1978, 43 Social Services jobs were frozen and there were 239 jobs vacant.

The Trades Council comes down heavily on the Council's financial strategy, described as "wealth creation". The Council's Community Plan describes "wealth creation" as its "first and over-riding priority. Its purpose is to raise income in real terms in order that it will provide more money for individuals to dispose of as they wish and more revenue to the public sector for financing public services because of an increase in the tax base and more profit to the entrepreneur to finance

new investment".

The effect of this policy, according to the Trades Council, is to cut back on Council housing, social services and council jobs while encouraging private commercial investment, home ownership and the use of private leisure activities. Hence the setting up of the £3 million Industrial Development Fund and that of the £2.2 million received under the Inner City Partnership scheme for Docklands. £1.15 million will be spent on a 20 acre industrial site, £850,000 on roads and only £160,000 on rehabilitating flats and £4,000 for Redruff Community Centre. The cuts are also part of the strategy - the transfer of funds from social spending to "wealth creation".

The Trades Council is convinced that Southwark's strategy is the wrong one. The Trades Council's policy is to expand local council spending by:

- \* Expansion of social services to the elderly, handicapped and the young

- \* Improved maintenance of council facilities such as parks, open space, housing and roads

- \* Expanding the scope of Southwark's direct works departments

- \* Filling vacancies and unfreezing posts in the Council

- \* Building and rehabilitating more industrial buildings and by supporting industrial co-ops.

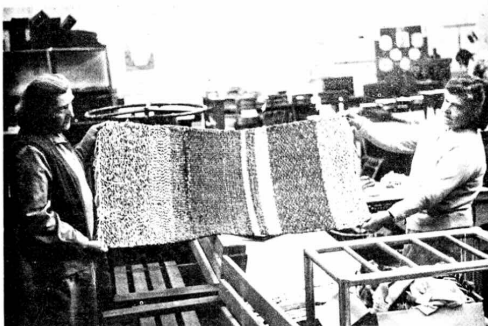
## What the Council says

Not surprisingly, councillor John O'Grady, Leader of Southwark Council, does not agree with the Trades Council's criticisms. He has been Leader all through the period of the cuts and so is one of the chief architects of Southwark's present policies.

Commenting on the figures in the report he told SE1, "One can always look at individual items and find things wrong but the Trades Council report doesn't look at the total Council spending which has increased. And it doesn't take account of the possibility that certain council services may lose their relevance over time."

He admitted that two years ago there were too many vacancies in the Social Services department but claimed this was because of the high turnover of staff, 25-28% leaving each year.

"The policy of wealth creation", he said, "applies not merely to the private sector, it's for the whole borough. Average earnings per household in Southwark are £20 per week below the London average. We are attempting to put more money into the pockets of the people in the borough by getting better jobs."



RAG RUGS, one of the newest activities, uses scraps of fabric donated by local clothes manufacturers from their offcuts. They are good sellers and recently a contract was made with Oxfam who will sell them in their shops throughout the country. The weaving activities have been particularly helped by the repair of an old loom, said to be 150 years old, of a very unusual type. They are still in the process of piecing it together and working out the permutations of designs which are possible.



A view looking across the main part of the Work Centre. The building was originally a public library and when it was given by Lambeth Council it was on condition that any work carried out on the premises should be for the use of the community. This is now an open plan area with the silk screen printing in a small room off to one side. There is also a small quiet room for meetings and lunch time chats and reading. A small garden has produced a crop of strawberries and daisies.

## EMERGENCY!!

### Radio Alarm for the Elderly

Volunteers are needed to monitor a central Radio Unit in Bermondsey

Join Support Teams on Magdalen, Tooley St., Neckinger & Tabard Estates

Bermondsey Community Assistance Pilot Project, Lena Fox House, Crimscoot St., SE1. Tel. 237-0606

# A quiet place to work

Blackfriars Settlement's scheme to give local people a chance to use their skills

THE WORK CENTRE, based at the back of the Waterloo Action Centre, Baylis Road, is a workshop for people from varying backgrounds but with the common distinction that they are local people needing friendship and support of others.

The idea of the Work Centre is to provide stimulating and creative work for the members, with various market outlets. The aim is to be self supporting through making rugs of different designs, silkscreen printing of Christmas Cards, soft toys, woodwork, leatherwork, beadwork, knitting and sewn objects. The emphasis is on giving the members the responsibility for their work and being aware of opportunities of handmade goods.

Members get together in small groups to discuss their problems and needs, and to try and sort things out. Group activities such as exercises, cooking and other social skills are also planned, in conjunction with Morley College. These will start in the Autumn.

At present there are twenty-four members, and everyone works set hours as in a normal work situation, although the hours are only 10-12.30 and 1.30-3.00. Volunteers come to help and chat.

The public is welcome to visit and/or buy merchandise that is made there. Voluntary help is badly needed in the running of the Work Centre. Ideas for designs for next year's Christmas cards could be entered for the 'Local Residents Christmas Card Competition', for more information, entry forms and details of prizes, please contact the Work Centre.



This group of people are making hand-hooked rugs. The Work Centre was originally started around the activity of rug-making, for which it became very famous. Rugs have been exhibited at the Milan Triennale and at the Victoria and Albert Museum. Many well known artists have designed rugs in order to complete commissions, and they can be found in all corners of the country. Unfortunately the price of wool and the length of time to make a rug has put them into a very expensive price bracket and orders have dwindled.



WOODWORK. Pot plant stands have been made for a number of years. With the excellent assistance of a volunteer who collects orders from large stores and gardening centres there is now a steady market. The work involves a team of men and one woman. The wood arrives, having been cut into components by Elephant Jobs, and goes through a series of processes - sanding, drilling, staining, varnishing and assembly - to produce a finished product.

# 3000 HEALTH JOBS AT STAKE

PUBLIC MEETING on September 6th in Lambeth Town Hall, Brixton Hill, at 7.30pm.

The Area Health Authority, which is the body which makes the decisions about how money is to be spent in the health services in the area, has decided to oppose the cuts. This is very unusual for an A.H.A., and in order to hold out against the Government they will need all the trade union and public support possible.

Officers of the Area Health Authority have said that they will not instruct the hospitals to cut back on services. Instead the A.H.A. is prepared to go deep into debt to maintain adequate health services for residents of the area. But if they do this, those officers could be held personally responsible for the debt, and the

Department of Health would install its own commissioners to carry out the closures and redundancies.

In all, it is planned to take £14 million from this area (£2.6 million in the next year) - allegedly to 'transfer' it to 'more needy' areas such as Bexley and East Sussex.

## Public meeting

The meeting on September 6th will be opened by two speakers: Peter Smith, the T.U.C. representative on the A.H.A.; and Bala Granada Pragasam from the Regional Health Authority, who will give his own view of how the problem is viewed on that higher body. Then the meeting will be open to discussion from the floor, and to debate about plans for the future.

The meeting already has the

support of local Labour parties, neighbourhood councils, the Lambeth Co-operative Party and the Communist Party, the King's and St. Thomas' Community Health Councils and others.

Although the first emphasis will be on Lambeth trade unionists and residents from Southwark are also expected and encouraged to be there.

Everyone is encouraged to go. We have a health service today which our grandfathers and grandmothers fought for - and which is under attack: for their sake, for our own sake, and for that of our children, we should join in fighting to defend it from attempts to run it down and dismantle it.

LAMBETH TOWN HALL 7.30pm.

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 6th

For more details, contact Chris Sutton, Tel 278 0100, before or after the meeting; and watch SE1.

## WOMENS' GROUPS

### -charterhouse-

Charterhouse Womens Group begins again on Tuesday 12th September with a speaker on "Supergrip" --T.V. advertising. Following on 18th September: "Eat, drink and be wary" --dietician. On 26th September: "Teeth" --dental project. Meetings every Tuesday, 10 am at The Ark, 39 Crosby Row.



PHOTO LEFT: Waterloo Women's Group during their zoo visit.

### -waterloo-

The women's group in Waterloo has started again and we welcome new members.

We meet every Monday afternoon at 1.30pm for an hour and a half at 4, Santley House, Frazier St, SE1. There's a crèche for kids under five at 292 Campbell Buildings, SE1 where they can paint, play with sand and water, and with bricks, toys and dressing-up clothes.

In the past we've talked about kids, childbirth, isolation, friends, prescribed drugs, cystitis, contraceptives, abortion, safety in the home and lots of other things. A local doctor has visited the group twice, we've seen several films and some slides on China. We also went to Chessington Zoo with the kids and had a party at Christmas. At our next meeting we'll be planning our programme for the next month or so, so come and join us. Any women living in Waterloo are welcome.

In the women's group we are able to relax and put our feet up for an hour and a half and have a cup of tea and a chat.

## OA Ps: your new bus pass

The new GLC senior citizens' bus passes are finally coming. If you are an old age pensioner, you should go to the post office where you draw your pension.

The new permits will be issued in alphabetical order according to the first letter of your surname, as follows: A-B, September 4-8; C-D, Sept. 11-15; E-G, Sept. 18-22; H-K, Sept. 25-29; L-M, October 2-6; N-R, Oct. 9-13; S-T, Oct. 16-20; U-Z, Oct. 23-27.

People unable to renew their travel permits at the proper times should do so as soon as possible afterwards.

### WHAT YOU NEED

Your pension book, 2 identical head-and-shoulders photographs. You can get photos taken in the following organisations:

Age Concern (Southwark), 33 Peckham Road, SE5. (10am to 12 noon and 2-3.30pm Mon.-Fri.)  
Bede House Association, 351 Southwark Park Road, SE16. (10am to 4pm Tues.-Fri.)  
Bermondsey Medical Mission, 44 Crane Road, SE1. (10am to 12 noon and 2-4.30pm Mon.-Fri.)  
Blackfriars Settlement, 44/47 Nelson Square, SE1. (10.30am to 1pm and 2-4.30pm

## IT'S YOUR HEALTH

DROP-IN EVERY THURSDAY  
10.30 - 12.30  
FOR ADVICE, INFORMATION OR A CHAT ABOUT YOUR HEALTH!

(Menopause, cystitis, aches and pains, diet, exercise, family planning, abortion, health services and rights, dentist, opticians, etc.)

At 292, Campbell Buildings, SE1

Drop in and have a cup of tea and a chat with local residents. Leaflets on health conditions and health services are available.

Health isn't just about being

ill; being healthy is something that concerns us all. It's the way we live and what we eat and about how much time we spend relaxing and taking exercise. What's more, we usually all suffer with our health at one time or another and most people are usually suffering from some complaint or another all the time, even if just an aching back or a sore throat or head-ache.

Here's an opportunity to talk about your health! You don't often get one, so don't miss it!

## Dregs drub Strollers

JOHN ARLOTT.

It was fourth time lucky for Dregs of Humanity XI when they defeated Southwark Strollers by 36 runs at the Bel Air ground on August 13. In three previous games the verdict had gone the other way.

Choosing to bat first on an easy-paced wicket the Dregs soon had 90 runs on the board with only three men out. Skipper Arthur Anderson made a rapid 20, while his opening partner John Denton carried his

bat, reaching a well-deserved 50 a few overs before the Dregs' innings was closed.

For the Strollers Robinson and Roberts boulded unchanged, having most success in the middle of the innings when three Dregs in succession failed to score.

Set 130 to win, the Strollers were soon in trouble against the pace bowling of Wes McDermott and Pat Petkar. Three wickets fell before the innings reached double figures but their first man steadied the Strollers with a solid knock of 42, supported by Robinson (21). But the run rate fell as bad light set problems for both batsmen and outfielders.

Anderson brought himself on to bowl mid-way through the innings, and was immediately successful, finishing with figures of 5-28.

In the field the Dregs were much aided by the valiant throwing and stopping of an American baseball player drafted into their team at the last moment.

Mon.-Fri.)

Cambridge House & Talbot, 131 Camberwell Road, SE5. (6.30-8pm Thurs. and 10.30am to 12.30pm Sat.)

Dockland Settlement, Redriff Road, SE16 (2-4pm Mon. and Wed. from Sept. 13)

These organisations will charge 20p for two passport photos. The cost will be refunded when senior citizens apply at their local post office for their new bus pass.

There are also machines, one at Woolworth's at the Elephant & Castle, another at the Waterloo Station.

## S'WARK POW-WOW

How does the Council decide whether to support voluntary organisations in the borough? What kind of voice should local groups have in helping to formulate Council policy? Should the Council and voluntary organisations get together to decide which areas of work each will do?

These are some of the issues that will be raised in a day conference to be held on October 2nd at the North Peckham Civic Centre.

The Conference, called Voluntary Organisations in Southwark: The Future, is being co-sponsored by Southwark Council for Voluntary Service and Southwark Council.

For more details and applications forms, contact Jo at Southwark Council for Voluntary Service, 53 Chatham Street, SE17 tel. 703-9730.



## Reading & Writing Helpers Wanted

The adult literacy (reading and writing) scheme at Blackfriars Settlement works with people from the SE1 area who want help with reading, writing or spelling - whether they are learning from scratch or just polishing up spelling.

We need more volunteer tutors, both helping in small groups and working individually with literacy students,

daytime and evening. You have to be able to come at least two hours a week for a year, with some extra time for meetings. The scheme is managed by a committee of students and volunteers, with 1 full-time worker, so anyone involved in the scheme can take part in running it. (As well as tutors, we need people to help with office work--typing, answering the phone, and so on.)

You don't have to be a teacher to help others learn--in fact, it's often better not to be a 'professional'. We'll give you a training course (15 hours) and support after that.

If you want to find out more, or if you would like to come to the scheme as a student, ring Alison Tomlin or Diane Ludford, 928-9521, or write to us: Literacy Scheme, 44-47 Nelson Square, SE1.

## 'GRAPEVINE'

SE1 readers may be interested in the Grapevine program, a 10-week series shown on BBC2 every Monday night at 7.30. Each programme is on a different sort of community action. The last one, to be shown in the middle of September, will examine the production of community newspapers.



Barley gives beer its strength; hops provide the distinctive bitter flavour.

But hops were not introduced into the brewing of beer in England until the mid-15th century. The "ale" of Saxon times was brewed from barley without hops; when hops were introduced into the beer by the Flemings who settled in London, the drink was termed "biers". This was the original difference between ale and beer - one brewed without hops, the other with.

Today the two terms are synonymous as hops are essential in the brewing of all beers. In average, six hops provide the flavouring to every pint.

## OLD TYMERS SAY: 'COME DANCING'

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13th saw a Super Spectacular Afternoon and Evening of Old Tyme Dancing Competitions, when over 100 leading competitors turned up at Colombo St. Community Sports Centre for the monthly Dress Day run by the A.C.E. (Amateurs Competitors of England) Club.

Local residents saw dancing far beyond expectations, when the Gentlemen in Dress wear of Tail Suits complete with gloves etc., lead their ladies onto the floor perfectly groomed from head to toe, diamonds and sequins flashing and gleaming in the sunlight.

All age groups from 18 years upwards to the over 50's (when all couples share at least 100 years young between them), had at least three competitions to participate in.

The residents watching soon picked their favorites, by cheering, calling the numbers and applauding.

As evening approached, the

lights were switched on to enhance even more the beauty and splendour of the ladies' dresses. Committee members of the A.C.E. had arranged a wonderful display of awards, the silver cups glistened and with the flowers brought in for decoration it really was a sight to behold. By 8 o'clock the winners had been suitably

### awards

awarded and it was time to go home. As the watchers left it was said by so many, "It was lovely. I didn't think it would be like that." Everyone was sorry the meeting had come to a close.

The A.C.E. Club has booked your hall for every second Sunday in the month commencing October 8th, from 4 o'clock until 8. It is a non-profit making concern run by amateurs to encourage, enlighten and cajole everyone from 5 years to 105 years who are interested in sequence dancing.

Not everyone wants to be a



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).

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

## Meetings

**MEETINGS:** Mondays 11th and 18 September from 7.30 pm.  
**LAST DAY** for articles to go in the next issue is Monday, 18th September; stop press articles by Friday 22nd Sept.  
**HELP PREPARE THE PAPER** It's great fun typing, thinking up headlines and gluing down the stories: the weekend of 23 & 24 September, 11am to, say, 7 or whenever we finish.  
**NEXT ISSUE** out on Friday 29th.

## SPECIAL OFFER: back issues!

COMPLETE SETS OF SE1 (Issues 1 - 34 inclusive) ARE NOW AVAILABLE (price 50p, delivery free). Write to 12 Meymott Street, SE1, or ring 928 1643.

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Have you missed any from your collection to pass on to the grandchildren?

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## SELL OUT

cont'd from page 1

victory for the community groups which have fought for five years to get approval for a plan which caters for the needs of the area.

The decision means that powers over planning in the area, previously held by the GLC, are now transferred to Lambeth Council.

Ironically, though, this doesn't give Lambeth KCouncil any more say over what happens to the Coin Street sites, since that decision now lies with the Department of the Environment, to be made after the public enquiry eventually takes place. Shore explained that he granted the office permits "in order that the planning issues can be fully considered." But as the Waterloo and North Southwark groups point out, the planning issues have already been fully considered, since the planners spent five years drawing up the Waterloo District Plan, which Shore himself has agreed to.

## Play spaces

INFORMATION ABOUT VACANT sites in Lambeth which might be suitable for use as temporary playspaces for children is being asked for by Lambeth Council. Councillor Andrew Sawdon, Chairperson of the Playspaces Sub-committee explained, "Any vacant site should be at least half an acre. If the site has a life of between two to three years and there is a need for play facilities in that area we will do everything possible to bring it into use."

The vacant site could be laid out for use as ball game areas or as grassed spaces for parents and young children. Mr. Sawdon promised that every nominated site will be investigated and discussed at Sub-committee meetings in the autumn. Send your ideas to Councillor Andrew Sawdon, Lambeth Town Hall, Brixton Hill, SW2 as soon as possible.

poetry readings

Don't miss the

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WATERLOO ROAD



## WATERLOO ROAD CLOSURES

NEW PLANS TO CONTROL TRAFFIC in the Waterloo Area are being proposed by Lambeth Council following the approval of the Waterloo District Plan.

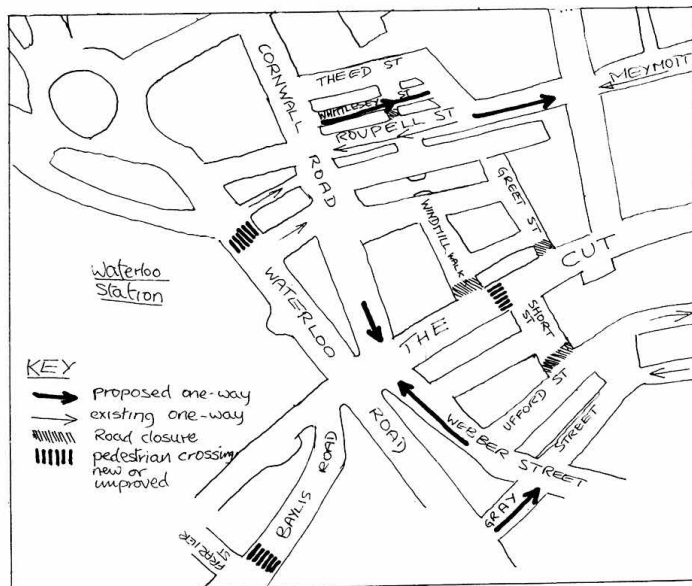
The proposals include pedestrian crossings, closing some roads and making some one-way. To close the traffic right through Cornwall Rd. and Webber St. it is proposed that Cornwall Road be made one-way north to south between the bus stand and The Cut and Webber St. one way south to north between the junctions with Ufford St. and The Cut. To stop vehicles diverting from this route other measures would be needed to protect nearby streets. They are a one-way working in Gray St. west to east between Waterloo Road and Webber St. and the closure of Short St. between Mitre Road and Ufford St.

### One way

The area of Theed St., Whittlesey St. and Roupell St is used as a bypass avoiding The Cut. The main proposal is to make Roupell St. one-way in an easterly direction between Theed St. and Hatfields. This opposed the existing one-way working between Theed St. and Cornwall Road and prevents through traffic. Whittlesey St. would also be one-way eastwards between Cornwall Road and Theed St. An alternative suggestion made at a public meeting is to make Windmill Walk one-way and exclude through traffic in Roupell St. Whittlesey St. and Theed St. by making them one-way away from their junctions with Windmill Walk. The junctions of Windmill Walk and Greet Street are planned to be closed and paved over.

### Pedestrians

Pedestrian crossing for The Cut near Windmill Walk and Baylis Road near Frazier St. If a traffic census shows there is sufficient need. The zebra crossing in Waterloo Road outside the station would be widened and proper pedestrian facilities provided at the junction of Westminster Bridge Road/Baylis Road/Kennington Road.



## LOCAL TENANTS TRIUMPH OVER CITY

Tenants in Kennington Road have recently won a major concession over disturbance payments from the City of London Corporation.

The Corporation, which owns 118 dwellings in Lambeth, plans extensive modernisation of its property in Kennington Road. These large, older-style flats over a row of shops built 80 years ago will be gutted in the modernisation plan.

### Concessions

The Corporation at first told the tenants they were not entitled to disturbance payments. But after forming a Tenants' Action Group, and with advice from Lady Margaret Hall Settlement and the Lambeth Community Law Centre, the tenants got the Corporation to change its mind. At a meeting of its Housing Committee on July 28 the City agreed to pay the tenants -

- \* a lump sum of £2000 for removals and associated expenses
- \* the cost of disconnection and reconnection of appliances - in addition to their home loss payments.

Despite these concessions, there are still things the Tenants' Action Group is not satisfied with. The Corporation originally offered some of

the tenants alternative accommodation worse than the flats they were moving out of. Although tenants are offered a decoration allowance on top of the disturbance payment, the Corporation has not said how much they are entitled to, and sticks to its policy of negotiating with each tenant separately.

In fact, the Corporation has even now not recognised the Tenants' Action Group, and has always communicated with tenants individually. The Group is now writing to the Corporation's Chairman of Housing requesting a meeting to clarify the City's policy on Tenants' groups. Although it has not recognised the Kennington group, the City has recognised the Blake House Tenants' Association in nearby Hercules Road, not to mention the Barbican Tenants' Association!

### No families

In its consultative document 'Population and Housing', published in February 1977, the Corporation notes the trend in central London towards smaller households. The converted flats in Kennington Road are clearly intended for these smaller households. Out of 61 units in the rehabilitation, 29 will be 1-person flats, 20 will be 2-person flats, 11 will be 3-person flats and only one will be a 4-person flat. In other words, these large family dwellings in Kennington Road are being converted mainly into accommodation for single people and childless couples - presumably for key professional workers in Westminster and the City. The Corporation has given no indication of what the rents will be, but it is unlikely that the working-class people who have been forced to move out could ever afford to move back again.

# YOUR RIGHTS

## New Law Centre

At last, after three years' struggle, a grant has been obtained for a Neighbourhood Law Centre in the northern part of Lambeth. The full project will not be underway until 1980-1981, but one community lawyer and a secretary will be employed from April 1979.

The idea was put forward and has been fought for by the Association of Waterloo Groups, the Waterloo Legal Advice Service, the North Lambeth Neighbourhood Council, the Kennington Citizen's Advice Bureau, and other community groups.

Representatives of these groups are currently meeting to set up a management committee and to decide what the new lawyer will be asked to do.

### Five topics

There are five possible main areas of work being discussed.

1. Legal help to community groups - eg. over issues like COIN STREET
2. Legal help to individuals in trouble
3. Acting as a back-up service for existing information services in the area - enabling lawyers services to reach more people by helping other workers and volunteers provide a better service.
4. Preparing materials and courses to help train more people (eg volunteers, social workers, youth workers) to be better able to deal with legal things.
5. Educating the public more about their own legal rights.

### Whereabouts?

The exact location of the Law Centre is being discussed and the details of the management structure need to be carefully worked out to ensure there is proper representation from all the community groups and advice agencies in North Lambeth.

SE1 will continue to keep readers informed of the development of the Law Centre, and if anyone wishes to know more about the proposals or to discuss them, they should contact Fred Miller or Howard Simmons, at the Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road, SE1.

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