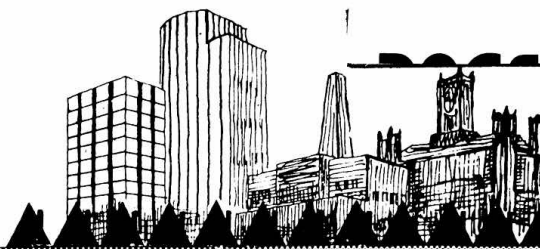


SE1



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THE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER FOR NORTH SOUTHWARK AND WATERLOO

No.36 October 78. 8p.

Inside... COOL NEWS

Written by
young people of SE1

EARLIER THIS YEAR IT WAS DECIDED TO PRODUCE A 'KIDS ISSUE' which would be included as a supplement to the usual SE1 format. This was to help generate an interest in SE1 amongst the young people of the area, to give them somewhere to air their views, to encourage an interest in writing and to let them put together their own paper. This was publicised in the September edition of SE1, and with help from local youth workers a group of young people came together, wrote articles, took photographs and were shown how to 'paste up'. What they have written has not been altered in any way, which includes the spelling and punctuation. As there was eventually more written material than there was space for in the kids issue some of this can be found elsewhere in this month's SE1. Hopefully this idea will be repeated again at a later date.



Why strike?

Social Workers state their case

"Most SE1 readers will probably know that about 150 social workers (that is all but a handful of us) are on strike.

Social workers are on strike in Southwark, Tower Hamlets, and in Newcastle. Workers in Lewisham and Wandsworth are to take a strike ballot. We've been on Strike since August 14th. Before that we were taking limited action - not taking on any new work - since June 12th. This is the result of a claim which we put to Southwark Council in

April asking them to meet with us to discuss our pay and conditions. At the moment we are on a scale set for the whole country which has fixed social workers rates of pay on the same level for the last 10 years, despite the fact that more and more complicated and responsible work is now done. This is because several new Acts of Parliament on the care of the mentally sick young offenders and disabled people have become law.

So the strike is really about 2 things; firstly, we feel that as a whole, social workers need improvements in their pay and conditions, and secondly we are in a different position from nearly all other Council workers in not being able to set our pay and conditions locally with our employers; Southwark Council. So in line with the policy of our

NALGO Policy

union, NALGO, we are asking Southwark Council to change this situation and come to an agreement with us within the Borough. The Council's reaction to us so far has been to flatly refuse to talk to us. Instead they have suddenly decided that whilst admitting we have a case they are only prepared to negotiate on the basis of a London-wide scale. This itself is a break away from the National scales, and perhaps this seems reasonable enough to you - but as far as we are concerned it makes no sense to compare the level of work of a social worker in Southwark, with that of one in Bromley or Richmond On Thames. We

Cont'd page 8.

nscdg

Make or break

OCTOBER IS A CRUCIAL MONTH for voluntary organisations in North Southwark because Southwark Council are due to reach important decisions about funding for the North Southwark Community Planning Centre in Great Guildford Street. On 4th October the General Purposes and Finance Committee are to receive a deputation from the North Southwark Community Group who will be presenting their case for further funding. The Group, who run the Planning Centre, have been under threat for some months.

Earlier this year, Southwark Council told the Group their funds would be cut off on 31st March, but protest from the community extended the cutoff date to 31st December. The Group are arguing that the Department of the Environment are willing to continue funding until 31st March 1980 if only Southwark will change their minds.

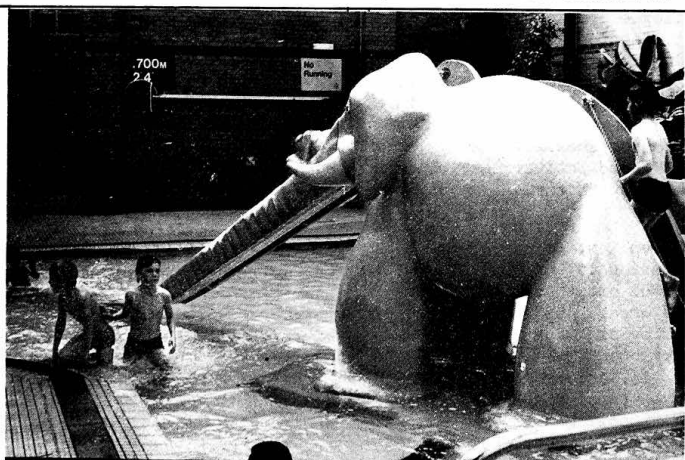
Also in October, on the 12th, Labour councillors are to meet, and there will be a resolution before them from the Southwark Labour parties asking that the funding for the NSCDG should continue. A report on the work of the Planning Centre has been circulated to all councillors and lobbying has been going on now for some months, in the hope that the Council will see the good work that has been done.



TORY GLC SELL WATERLOO HOMES

The news that the GLC is to sell the 63 new flats and maisonettes being built in Waterloo Road has brought an angry response from Community Groups NSCDG and WCDG. They have written to the GLC deploring the move as one which will "condemn people to be trapped in older estates".

The Tory GLC have shown that as well as sabotaging the chance of residents moving from Inner to Outer London (something over 2,000 people did in 1976) they now want to seize up the Transfer system for Inner London residents who want to stay.



Splash Hit !

ONE OF THE FIRST USERS OF THE NEW SWIMMING POOL AT THE ELEPHANT WAS SAMANTHA O'MAHONEY. HER COMMENT WAS: "IT'S GOT A NICE TEMPERATURE IN THE WATER BUT THERE ARE A FEW THINGS WRONG WITH IT. ONE THING I DON'T LIKE IS THAT IT'S NOT DEEP ENOUGH FOR DIVING BOARDS OR ANY OTHER SKILLS YOU MIGHT POSSESS IN DEEP WATER. THE DEEPEST IT GOES IS 5 ft." More about the pool on page 5....

FROM NOW, FROM NOW...

READERS OF SE1 MAY REMEMBER THE PROMISES MADE BY GEORGE TREMLETT *inter alia* in the GLC to the tenants of the Tanswell Estate at the public meeting held in May of this year. At that point the GLC expressed an intention to involve tenants in their plans to improve the estate. However tenants have been disappointed by a number of developments which have occurred with total disregard for their promises.

The GLC had agreed to delay the start of their 'package' improvement programme until the Tanswell Action Group had conducted a full survey of the estate to establish whether that was actually what tenants wanted. But the GLC have gone ahead regardless. Gas mains for their scheme have been laid and, furthermore, a letter circulated by the GLC to the tenants offered the "package" on a take it or leave it basis, making no mention of possible alternatives.

The Tanswell Action Group was not consulted on either of these developments, and understandably tenants are worried and confused about what is happening.

Meanwhile the tenants have completed the survey of the estate and preliminary findings show that many residents are not happy with the "package" on offer. The results of the survey are currently being correlated and will be presented, together with tenants' alternatives to the "package", to Mr. Tremlett at a meeting to be held next month. Let us hope that the GLC, despite their temporary lapse, stand by their original promises of participation.

Claire Leggatt
Tanswell Action Group

WRITE

to SE1. We want to hear your news and views. Send your letters to: SE1 Community Newspaper, 12 Meymott St, SE1.

WOOLVERIDGE WONDERS!

Dear SE1,
Your report headlined "South London profits" in the August issue of SE1 amply illustrates the pitfalls of the alternative or community press, in that it is overtly subjective and makes no attempt to check facts at source or solicit comment from the subject. Perhaps this is because you lack professional journalists, or perhaps it is because you expressly want SE1 to have a firm line on a given topic, regardless of how distorted the story must be to fit that line.

Nevertheless, it does seem you are doing your readers no great service by selecting a few facts and opinions without explaining them. For instance, the Stock Exchange analyst who told you the SLP is "the most profitable company in Britain" must, I am sure, have qualified that statement by specifying a year and the category of company - whether public or private

over or under 200 employees etc. As it stands, the statement is ridiculous.

The editorial department of the SLP, staffed entirely by members of the NUJ, takes exception to the bitter but rather silly remark that the SLP is not a newspaper but an advertising supplement - particularly since all the "news" stories in the current issue of SE1 have been researched and written by them and published in the SLP long before they appeared in SE1. With that in mind, it would seem your readers would get far better value for money from the SLP (which covers 28 postal districts in South London apart from SE1) for 8p than SE1 at the same price with far less news.

Nowhere is your failure to check facts or substantiate facts more obvious than in your statement that the SLP "could easily fill two pages with letters". How can you make such an assumption when you

have no knowledge of either the volume or regularity with which letters for publication arrive at the SLP? Why did you not bother to ask us?

Whatever your vision of an ideal newspaper may be - and surely it cannot be SE1 - the reality is that the SLP is in the newspaper business and therefore stands or falls according to how well it sells. While we are in no way complacent, the fact that our circulation is rising would indicate that we are providing a service that an increasing number of people want.

Yours sincerely,
Richard Woolveridge,
Deputy Editor.

SE1 replies:

Curiously, Mr Woolveridge is careful not to say our facts were wrong, just to insinuate that by claiming they were never checked.

Well, they are right and they were checked, although we won't spoil his fun by revealing how (not yet, anyway). Let's see if he can work it out.

We are not concerned whether the SLP is "better" than SE1. We are concerned that the SLP can afford to give much more coverage to community news than it chooses to.

NOTE. Readers of SE1 and SLP may have noticed the feature in the SLP in September on Dr. Collis Browne's famous Compound. SE1 featured the same in May 1977. Who's copying who?

Hostel places- the real facts

IN LAST MONTH'S SE1 the figure we gave in our August issue for the number of hostel places in Southwark was challenged. Our report that Southwark houses 67% of hostel places in London is wrong. The figure we gave was taken from a GLC report on the proposal by St Mungo's to use Tress House in Stamford St as a hostel for homeless men.

Reproduced below are the latest figures available for hostels and common lodging houses in Inner London. These figures do NOT include the DHSS reception centres such as Camberwell. Southwark, it can be seen, provides the 4th highest number of beds. There is a great contrast between Inner and Outer London where only 4 boroughs have any hostel provision.

NUMBER OF BEDS PER 100,000 POPULATION, FOR EACH INNER LONDON BOROUGH.

Borough	Number of beds	Beds per 100,000 pop.
Tower Hamlets	1996	1257
Westminster	1945	841
Camden	1572	799
Southwark	1380	546
Islington	561	289
Lewisham	734	279
Hammersmith	377	207
Lambeth	606	202
Hackney	154	72
Kensington and Chelsea	110	60
Greenwich	104	35
City of London	60	28
Total	9980	371

*Source: Registrar General's Revised Estimates of the Population (mid 1972).

*Because of the very small resident population in the City, this figure is not meaningful.

Table reproduced from the OPCS/DHSS 1972 Survey of Hostels and Common Lodging Houses (HMSO 1976)

Sir,

In your August issue you refer to the noise from helicopters. That is nothing to the horrible noise that is made by the loud speakers from the railway at Waterloo Station (Eastern Sec). We have to put up with the annoyance from early morning until late at night, sometimes as late as 11.30 pm. You must hear it in your premises in Meymott Street. We get it 7 days a week. I don't think it is very nice for anyone who happens to be unwell and confined to bed 7 days a week. Sometimes there are more people shouting through the speakers than there are passengers in the trains. It would be great if you could get this noise abated.

Yours truly
A life-time resident of this SE1 district.

Lambeth warns GLC tenants:

Don't let 'em fool you

"DON'T LET 'EM FOOL YOU" is the warning that Lambeth Council is sending to all 16,000 GLC tenants in the borough. The warning comes in a leaflet which advises tenants not to accept any offers to buy their homes from the GLC and explains why Lambeth Council are resisting the transfer of GLC housing to the borough.

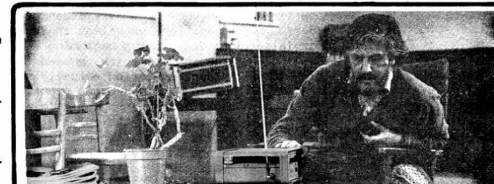
Lambeth are being amazingly hard-hitting over the Tory GLC's housing plan. The sale of Council houses "reduces the stock of rented accommodation available and means less chance for the 13,000 families on our waiting list. The present GLC find it difficult to grasp that many working people are not in a financial position even to think of buying a house."

The present tactics of the GLC is to sell off all the best housing and dump the rest on the boroughs. The GLC want this transfer to take place by 1st April next year. Lambeth Council is fighting this plan tooth-and-nail. Council Leader Ted Knight said at a press conference, "We have just received an ultimatum giving us until 26 October to accept the GLC's offer of their housing stock. This is an offer we can, and will, refuse. Instead of trying to sell off their best properties privately and expecting the borough to take over the rest that nobody wants, the GLC should clean their estates and honour their obligations as

landlords." The GLC threatened to hand over their 16,000 properties in Lambeth to an independent agency to manage if the council refuses to accept their offer.

The transfer of GLC housing to the boroughs will end any hope of council tenants moving to another part of London. The sale of the best GLC housing ends any hope of moving to better accommodation, like a house with a garden.

In the leaflet Ted Knight says: "Make no mistake. Lambeth has been singled out by the GLC as the subject of an all-out attack. Their aim is to make an example of this borough so as to force the whole of London to accept their hopeless ideas."



Ian Harris demonstrates the equipment for the experimental radio alarm project in the office of the Medical Mission in Bermondsey. On the table is the bedside unit and in his hand is the miniature unit to be constantly worn around the neck. The office is equipped with a stereo, telly, couch, coffee and tea, and lots of books and magazines for the volunteers monitoring the central unit. Anyone with spare time to stay in the office should ring Ian on 237-0606.

our health's in the balance

TRADE UNIONISTS AND HEALTH WORKERS are preparing for a hard campaign to stop government cuts in health services in Lambeth, Lewisham and Southwark. They met with concerned residents at a public meeting of about 50 people on Sept 6th. The various sides in the fight have taken their positions and are beginning to manoeuvre.

The Area Health Authority

for the 3 boroughs, which declared its total opposition to any cuts, is at the front line. AHA officials have instructed the Districts within the Area to continue spending at last year's levels. But if the Department of Health and Social Security cuts the money it gives the AHA, and the AHA goes on spending at present levels it will go broke in about 5 years.

The AHA now has 3 options: to capitulate and get on with the cuts; to go broke; or to fight and win adequate funding for its health services.

Trades Councils for the 3 boroughs are considering setting up a united group to oppose the cuts. Already in Lambeth the Trades Council is planning to hold local meetings with the help of Community Health Councils for people who people who could not get to the last meeting. They will explain the effect the cuts will have and discuss plans for action.

The problem as some campaign organisers see it is that the public won't get involved until people actually see hospitals and services close down, and then it's too late. Most people, they say, take the NHS for granted, just like they do running water and electricity. And they don't even think about it except when they are ill.

When people fall ill, or need dental treatment or operations then they realise the inadequacies in the present service. There are new priorities as well in mental health, community services and care for youth and the disabled. And yet the Government talks about cuts!

NEWS INTERNATIONAL, THE NEWS-PAPER COMBINE that produces the News of the World and the Sun, have been having secret talks with Southwark Council about the possibility of moving onto Hays Wharf site by Tower Bridge. The News of the World group approached Southwark after Camden refused to support a plan to move the works to a site near St Pancras Station. The papers are printed at the moment in Bouverie Street, off Fleet Street.

This is not the first time that the newspaper group has taken an interest in Hays Wharf. In 1974, they put forward sketch plans for a huge 750,000 sq ft building, containing 300,000 sq ft of office space.

It is thought that the same site, opposite the Tower of London and next to HMS Balfast, is now under consideration. The site is about 10 acres and includes the Bethel Estate. Tenants associations in Tooley Street, Arnold Estate and Dickens Estate and the trades Councils have designated this area for houses with gardens. The community has envisaged that industrial development would take place elsewhere, for example in Butlers Wharf and Bricklayers Arms.

The Camden Planning Officer who was responsible for dealing with the St Pancras proposal told SE1 that Camden councillors were opposed to it because they want small scale industry in their borough and they do not believe that the giant complex will create many new jobs. Most jobs would move with the firm and some could even be lost.

Over the past few years the AHA has been operating as cheaply as possible. Normal maintenance has been cut back to the extent that there is now a big backlog of work. To begin to make savings, the Area needs to have money for new buildings and equipment which will make for savings later.

The Sept 6th meeting passed a declaration saying:

"This meeting is absolutely opposed to all cuts in the NHS budgets, both revenue and capital, especially those proposed for Lambeth, Lewisham and Southwark AHA. It also demands adequate staffing levels in all departments where these are lacking and a reversal of the trend towards making the Health Service private (eg dentistry). The meeting supports the AHA as long as it continues to oppose any cuts."

In mid-September the DHSS showed a new tactic. They announced they were sending in a firm of consultants to examine the possibility of dividing the AHA into 3 smaller AHAs - divide and rule. This will, of course, simply increase the costs of administration, and doesn't mean any more money coming into the area.

TOM CORNISH- Bermondsey boy

TOM CORNISH WAS TRULY A BERMONDSEY BOY. This boy is quality we attribute to very few. He died of cancer on August 21st.



His strength of character and his ability to argue was his strength. He never failed to see and respect the other side of an argument or other people's point of view but when he saw a social injustice he would fight his hardest to rectify it.

He felt most strongly for the people of Bermondsey and always helped anyone who came to him for help. It is because he always looked after the needs of the elderly that Tom was so respected here.

Tom was an active Trade Unionist, fighting hard for better working conditions and higher wages. He was a founder member and treasurer of the Dickens Estate Tenants Association. As vice-chairman of Guys District Community Health Council, Tom Cornish, together with Tom Melligan, forged this committee into the formidable body it is today. He was respected by all those with whom he came into contact, especially

members of the medical profession.

He paid special interest to the plight of the mentally handicapped. Realising they are stuck at the bottom of the pile, his aim was to see the needs of this group of people recognised.

Tom Cornish was a member of the Labour Party for years and vice-chairperson of the constituency Labour Party in Southwark-Bermondsey. Last May he was elected councillor for the Riverside Ward of Southwark Council as one of the three new 'community-conscious' candidates who replaced the reactionary old-guard councillors.

Mr. Williams

The death has taken place recently of Mr Williams senior who resided at 46 Greet House. He had lived in the area all his life and was involved with the local action group. His attributes were many and he was the caretaker of the Tanswell Action Group's flat at 4 Santley House, where he undertook many duties. Mr Williams, who on many occasions entertained us with his stories of the past at our local meetings, will be sadly missed for his loyal support and enthusiasm in supporting the community with their projects.

Doctor Salter's Vision

In November 1936 a brand new health centre and solarium was opened in Grange Road, Bermondsey, replacing makeshift facilities that had been housed in three houses and gardens which stood on the site previously. It fulfilled part of the vision of "A veritable new Jerusalem" in Bermondsey shared by Alfred Salter and his fellow Labour Councillors.

Many years before this at the turn of the century as a young medical student studying at Guy's Hospital he was sent out to attend a young woman in Alcott Street, Bermondsey. The conditions he witnessed there so appalled the young doctor Salter that they were to stay with him and later alter the course of his whole life.

The medical centre and solarium built in 1936 was the crowning achievement of Doctor Salter, whose imagination had been fired in that susceptible time of youth by a young woman bringing her child into a world where intolerable conditions prevailed: where there was no fire, even though it was mid-winter, water was obtained from a standpipe at the other end of the courtyard and one WC served 25 houses. Such was the spectre of poverty that was to haunt Dr Salter and led him to give up a brilliant medical career to become a GP in Bermondsey.

One can imagine the frustrations of a man of vision working within the limitations of a doctor's influence (albeit a caring doctor) prior to the first world war. However, the post-war period saw great political changes and an increasing number of Socialist Councillors, which, not surprisingly, included the driving energies of Alfred Salter among their number.

In 1934 Dr Salter writing the forward to a Labour Council manifesto wrote:

12 years of Labour control of the Council had indeed seen some real socialist inspired measures. In the 4 years since the 1930 Slum Clearance Act Bermondsey had demolished and rebuilt more new houses than the Tory LCC had in the whole of London. 7,000 trees now lined the streets, giving a rural touch in a highly industrialised area.



Tuberculosis and other respiratory complaints were rife. Rickets among children was so

common as to barely excite a mention. Clearly the health of the community was a high priority on the agenda of a caring socialist council. The health centre in Grange Road in its conception represented an imaginative and unprecedented move on the part of Bermondsey Council. Bermondsey was to have the first municipal Solarium in the whole country. The Health Centre was to provide accommodation for many advanced methods of treatment - all free. These included a tuberculosis dispensary, infant welfare, ante-natal clinics, radio therapy etc. Only the projected X-ray installation was dropped because of pressure from the Tory LCC.

The Solarium was estimated to have cost the Council £45,000. The very crushing conditions prevalent in Bermondsey at the beginning of the century which daunted the older generation actually stimulated and presented a challenge to the young politicians coming up in the political arena. Dr Salter was also aware that mental attitudes were all important in the healing process and as the prime mover in the Solarium and Health Centre he ensured a touch of humanity in the everyday running of it. No-



one was patronised and made to feel less than a person. Everyone was seen by appointment and treated as an individual. The dignity of the patient was seen as an essential element of the recovery of a healthy mind and body.

The future of the Solarium is now in jeopardy. Southwark Council wants to buy the building, demolish it and use the site for an extension to the Setchell Estate in Dunton Road. This has come as a surprise to the health authorities, who feel there is still a need for a clinic in the area. Local tenants' associations have also

expressed alarm at the Council's proposals. Lil Patrick of the Tooley Street TA told SE1, "That Solarium is ours, and we want to keep it there." It looks as if a building that was fought for by people of vision is set to become the scene for a fight for survival, and an amenity that was gained as a result of the expression of inspiring socialist action is now reduced to a site ripe for redevelopment in an age when ideals have become conflicts between different departments. We wonder what Alfred Salter would say if he returned 30 years after another war?

WILL IT, WON'T IT

WELL THE ANSWER IS IT FINALLY DID - about 20 years late but still very welcome. At least the swimming part did. Latest predictions on the dry sports hall point to 1979 before the whole centre is open.

"It is, of course, the Elephant and Castle Recreation Centre. The swimming pool is very much for leisure rather than serious swimming with an octopus pool for small children and a larger lagoon shaped water area for adults. A variable speed wave machine sends ripples and waves through the pools. The centre is decorated in bright red, green, blue and yellow. The hall has a licensed bar and a cafe, lots of plants (we may be able to pick bananas at the Elephant in the 1980's!). The pool is open from 9am to 9pm seven days a week.

Southwark residents can become members of the Centre which entitles them to free entrance and preference in booking facilities: £2 for adults, 66p for under 17's and OAP's, £3.33 for family membership. Non-members pay a 10p entrance fee. Cost of facilities ranges from 30p for swimming (children 10p) to £1.50 per hour for badminton and £6 per hour for football, hockey etc. The sports hall will also provide squash, table tennis, sauna and a solarium.

The recreation centre is costing £11million. Yet down the road is the Colombo Street Sports and Community Centre, a sports complex being created out of an old canteen by people from the community on a shoestring budget. It took two years of lobbying to get a £10,500 Urban Aid Grant from Southwark of which £2 is actually paid by the government anyway. The question that arises is not that too much is being spent on the Elephant Centre but it does show Southwark Council's continual refusal to recognise and support community initiatives to improve life for the residents of the borough.

We hope to discuss this fully in next month's SE1.

TWO NEW PUBLICATIONS FROM THE NORTH SOUTHWARK COMMUNITY PLANNING CENTRE:-

"THE BERMONDSEY STREET ANTIQUE MARKET" An investigation into the spread of the Antique Market.

"PLANNING PERMISSIONS AND INNER CITY DEVELOPMENT". A study on whether property developers have implemented planning permissions.

Both reports available from NSDCG 108 Great Guildford St, SE1. Tel: 928-8165.



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 pubs or newspapers which sell it). The paper provides an alternative to the commercial press for news and views which rarely get an airing.

If you have ideas, news or something to publicise, why not come

If you have ideas, news or would like to help with producing the paper why not come to one of the meetings listed below where we sort out what will go in the next issue?

Meetings

MEETINGS Mondays 16th and 23rd October at 7.30pm.

LAST DAY for articles to go in the next issue is Monday 23rd October. Stop press articles by Friday 27th October. HELP PREPARE THE PAPER. It's great fun typing, thinking up headlines and gluing down the stories: the weekend of 28 & 29 October, 11am to 7pm or whenever we finish.

OVAL HOUSE

52-54 Kennington Oval, London SE11 5SW 01-735 2786

WORKSHOP PROGRAMME
25th September to December '78

MONDAY	5-6pm	TAP DANCE 5/8 yr olds	MAUREEN STARK (Dance Studio)
	6-8pm	TAP DANCE Beginners	MAUREEN STARK (Dance Studio)
	8-9.30pm	TAP DANCE Advanced	MAUREEN STARK (Dance Studio)
	6-8pm	MODERN & JAZZ DANCE	MICHELLE LAMB (Ashmole School)
TUESDAY	8-10pm	DISCO DANCING	(Main Hall)
	8-10pm	MOVEMENT & ACROBATICS	RONJI CRUZ (Dance Studio)
	8-10pm	MIME, MOVEMENT & IMPROVISATION	IRIS WALTON (Ashmole School)
	8-10pm	PRINTING, GRAPHICS & PHOTOGRAPHY	JOHN WELLS & CHRIS MONTAG (Print Room)
WEDNESDAY	8-9.30pm	IMPROVISATION & THEATRE GAMES	(Upstairs Studio)
	6-8pm	DANCE, MODERN TECHNIQUE (Graham)	MICHELLE LAMB (Ashmole School)
THURSDAY	8-10pm	EPIC ACTING PRODUCTION	JIM SWEENEY & ALPHI PRITCHARD (Ashmole School)
	8-10pm	VOICE & RELAXATION DRAMA & MOVEMENT	MAGGIE NICHOLS (Room 5) LEE BEAGLEY (Ashmole School)

There are no fees for individual workshops but FULL OVAL HOUSE MEMBERSHIP IS REQUIRED. This means that all full members can attend any number of workshops free of charge. Members will be asked to sign a register on enrolment relating to the workshops they will be taking. Full membership also includes Theatre Club Membership, which is reciprocal with most London Fringe Theatres, and includes regular mailings about Oval House events.

The Clowns workshops will not take place on a regular basis, instead JOHN MELVILLE will be taking an Intensive Weekend Course on The Magic Arts of Clowning, the dates of which will be announced at a later date. Electronics Workshop date yet to be decided.

FULL MEMBERSHIP:

OVER 18 YEARS OLD: £5 per year; £3 per quarter
15 - 18 YEARS OLD: £2 per year; £1 per quarter
CLATMANTS: £3 per year; £1.50 per quarter

Environment Fund Overloaded

Committees of Southwark Council will be meeting in the next few weeks to discuss the allocation of money from the Environment Fund, and already there are something approaching 130 schemes totalling approx. £3 million. The fund stands at £1.4 million after an injection of £0.4 million from Central Government so many schemes will not get off the ground.

Already a proposal to plant 600 street trees costing £50,000 has had to be trimmed to £10,000 because the Council's works department cannot undertake the task of planting, but how will priorities be decided between providing a new clock for St George the Martyr's Church in Borough High St, a riverside walk in Bermondsey, the Mint St local park and drainage of sports pitches in Peckham Rye? And why has a special fund to be set up to do what many people think should and could be done by expanding the capital programmes of existing Council service committees?

The claims on the fund are a very mixed bag and a balance will inevitably be sought at the cost of weighing what are absolute priorities. Conservation areas and areas of questionable need will compete with areas crying out for facilities.

Who can say that the follow-

ing are a priority for the improvement of our environment? Examples:-

Tree planting in Southwark and Peckham parks... £20,000
Painting railway bridges... £40,000
Riverside walk - Bermondsey... £75,000
Butlers Wharf Conservation Area... £50,000
Hays Wharf access to river... £100,000
New gates St George the Martyr's Church... £25,000
World centre for Shakespeare... £12,000
Paint for shopkeepers... £10,000
Viewing platform - St Saviour's Dock... £7,000
£339,000

And yet these will be set against crucial schemes such as: Mint St park)
Braganza park) £250,000
Nursery Row park)
Seaside buildings temporary use as playground £20,000
Marlborough/Grotto playgrounds £70,000

Most of the schemes submitted by residents and tenants' associations have yet to be costed.

A close eye will have to be kept on the fund and we will report on the progress of the various schemes in SE1.

Apart from the workings of the fund a question has to be asked if we actually need it at

all. In an attempt to control the spending of the service committees on the Council but at the same time give the appearance that a lot is being done the Council have come up with the Environment Fund which will be administered by the Policy and Resources committee which consists of the Chairmen of Committees and 3 back bench members.

Southwark seem committed to a system of management which gives the illusion of more people being involved in decision making whilst in reality fewer people are taking decisions. A series of gimmicks like the Environment Fund are dreamed up by the Council hierarchy which have diverted attention away from serious long term policy making by the Council. Apart from the initiatives from the community nearly all the schemes being considered for the fund have been dug out of bottom drawers or taken off shelves in the Council's own offices. If the Libraries and Amenities Committee and the Highways Committee were allowed more cash many of the schemes would have been implemented already.

Contrary to the illusion being given, the Environment Fund is a way of controlling council expenditure rather than expanding it to take account of pressing needs.



DOWN IN ROUPELL STREET near The Cut it's getting to be a regular film set. Residents scarcely bat an eyelid as the workmen paint out the yellow lines, turn street signs into trees and lamposts and blow smoke into the air to recreate the old London fogs. And suddenly, if you didn't blink, it was 1910 all over again! Last month Roupell Street became the set for a new London Weekend drama called 'Thomas and Sarah' with actor John Alderton tossing pennies into the air trying to get them to go down the drain. You'll have to wait for the TV showing to find out what it's all about.

"What working class has been like for me"

A BLACKFRIARS LITERACY STUDENT WRITES

What is life? I mean, was you born with a silver spoon in your mouth? Are you upper or middle class? Have you got a good education? Have you been to college or university, perhaps Oxford or Cambridge, or boarding school? Well you're lucky aren't you?

I mean, what if you were me? So now you are me. You were born into a working class family. You have an elder brother and sister. You have three younger brothers and a younger sister. OK. Your dad is a van-driver. You are 16, it is 1976 and your life has been fucked up by your school and the GLC's red tape.

You go to work. It is a shit-hole in Southwark Street. You live in Kennington Road. Your house is a shit-hole as well, but not because of your family but because of your family. You get pissed off with your job and you want more money. You go for a job at the same firm as your brother and your dad. You have been there one week. You are working in the warehouse, then the warehouse manager ask you to do the 'goods in', but you can't read and write.

He blows his mind. He goes up to see one of the directors.

He asks you why you did not tell him that you couldn't read so you tell him that if you told him you wouldn't have got the job. But you tell him that you are going to a literacy scheme, and he gives you time off work to go to the literacy scheme in the afternoon.

But although you are learning to read, there is still your personal life to cope with. You are really fucked there, because you have to tell the truth. For instance, you are going out with a girl. You tell her that you couldn't read, and she will think that you are thick and then you have dropped yourself right in it, so your sex life is messed up.

Now it is 1978. You go to a party. You get pissed. You steal a car, and you are caught by the police. So you do it for some fun, but now you are considered to be a criminal. You are messed up for life, from now. You are branded for the rest of your life as a criminal. So then you become a different person, and there is no meaning to life. It is as if you are already in prison.

So that is what the working class has been like for me.

EDUCATION and our COMMUNITY

a personal view

EDNA MATHIESON

"...Parents shall have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children" - from the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, article 24

To what extent are you allowed to realistically choose the type of education you consider is right for your son or daughter? I was lucky in being successful in getting my first choice for my own daughter, though whether I made the correct choice, who knows? Like too many others, my choice of school was no more than putting a pin into a small list. I chose my daughter's school with my eyes and ears closed!

But how does anyone know what schools are good or bad - whatever we mean by those labels? In most other things we do we have some information about the subject.

Even when they settle into the school, problems arise that we have no information about and find it difficult to cope with. If you were asked if your child should take O levels or CSE exams, would you really know? At schools these days they even talk in terms of "combinations of subject choices". My daughter was told she could take either English A level or Sociology A level, but not both. I suppose she is lucky that at least she has the choice, because some schools just don't do certain subjects, yet it is difficult to discover exactly what school does what and is good at that.

In our primary schools other problems can arise. We hear that certain schools are supposed to be "more progressive" or "more free", but how will these educational situations suit our children? Then there are different teaching methods.

"Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality." (Declaration of Human Rights, as above)

The obvious question to this Declaration is, directed by who? and who examines the decision makers?

As local folk, we could ensure that the quality of education of our children is better provided for if we ourselves knew what was happening - a bit of effort from us would benefit our children and our grandchildren. It would help the schools, the teachers and other parents. If all this - or even a small part of it - rubbed off on our local community we would definitely enjoy a better life.

I've lived in this area all my life, as did my parents and grandparents, and over the years the very things I have written above have been said many times to me. No-one can be completely content with the education we are provided with, so what can we do?

In the reorganisation of the National Health Service a few years ago, Community Health Councils were formed - groups that take up the problems of local people like us in an attempt to make local health

facilities and services better. On these lines, just imagine a COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL, providing a service that would considerably help in getting rid of doubts we share about educational issues.

Sadly, in education there's no-one, no group, to whom any one of us can go to discuss one of the most precious things we have - our children and their education.

The idea of a Community Education Council is really quite exciting, because besides catering for our children and adolescents, all age categories with differing needs and interests would also be equally important: young adults, senior citizens, adults with special problems and handicaps, the list is endless. Your educational needs and desires could be considered and acted upon. And it is important to appreciate that the local education authority is empowered to give grants of up to

£10,000 to local organisations who want to set up educational projects.

It's a challenge!

So the Community Education Council is not only an idea, it is a challenge. Just think of a local 'pool' of knowledge and information for our community, our families, friends and neighbours.

Let's be the first to create a Community Council to look after Education - it is, singularly, the most vital and important resource we have.

If you think the idea of a Community Education Council is a winner, Peter Chester, the new community education worker for North Southwark and North Lambeth, would like to hear from you: telephone 928 8501, ex 48, or 837 5464.

INNER CITY MONEY and us

MONEY FROM THE INNER CITIES 'Partnership' programme for 1980-83 is now up for grabs. Thanks to the activity of LICCG, the community has a greater say in how it is divided out.

The Inner City programmes were launched in the last months of 1977, with the publication of the Government's White Paper "Policy for the Inner Cities". One of the most important features was the commitment to the involvement of community groups, trade unions and neighbourhood councils. From a meeting of the neighbourhood councils an invitation was sent to Lambeth Trades Council, the Civic societies, the Association of Waterloo Groups, Community Health Councils and many other groups around the borough. After discussions the groups decided that the community needed a group to coordinate information etc concerned with the partnership. So the Lambeth Inner City Consultative Group (LICCG) was formed.

During this time the Officers of the Council had started work on the first (1979/82) three-year programme. (That is a programme of action funded by Urban

Aid, enhanced to £5 million per year, for which the first year is definite and the second and third years are subject to review.)

LICCG after its first meetings had started by demanding that the community should be involved in consultation about the programme and the workings of the Partnership, which is the name given to the machinery that the government set up to administer the regeneration of the inner cities.

From early on the community groups insisted on sending representatives to the Partnership Sub-groups and to the Officers' Steering Group and to have meetings held in public. LICCG also demanded access to the working papers.

After the May Council elections the new Council leadership agreed to allow representatives on the sub-groups, the wider circulation of the working papers, and ward based consultation. The only point outstanding was the holding of the Partnership Committee meetings in public. In this demand the LICCG is supported by Lambeth Council Leader, but following a meeting with the Secretary of State Peter Shore this demand remains the only point outstanding.

When the first programme was made public the community had only four weeks to comment on

the vast document, with a public meeting held in the Town Hall in late June. The meeting was well attended and a lot of time was spent criticising the time allowed for consultation, but this again failed to budge anyone. A demand for a three months extension to the consultation period went the same way.

Year Two
Whilst LICCG now has representatives on the OSG sub-groups, the timetable has changed very little from last year's. The most important points are as follows:

31st December 1978 is the final date by which projects must be submitted to be considered for the 1980/83 programme.

Ward based public consultation meetings start in January 1979 and continue until March (these start after the time limit expires for the 1980/83 programme). April 1979, a draft programme for 1980/83 and the period of consultation extends to mid-June. Again the timetable includes a public consultation period, but the draft will again be written by the officers and then presented to the community for comment, with no public participation involved in writing it. The ward based meetings start after the close of bids for the next programme, therefore if any schemes are thought of at the public meetings no action can be taken until the following year.

If anyone is interested, contact with LICCG can be made at the Neighbourhood Council's office, 73/75 Stockwell Road, SW9 - tel 274 9408/9, and ask for Mark Brangwyn.

Brian Hodge, President, Lambeth Trades Council, and current Chairperson of LICCG



Activists meet

A SECOND SUCCESSFUL INNER CITY ALLIANCE conference was held on Saturday September 17th at the Waterloo Action Centre in Lambeth. Community groups and trade union representatives from Birmingham, Cardiff, Newcastle, Liverpool, Brighton, Nottingham and London were at the conference. Papers were circulated beforehand on three topics arising out of the first conference in May this year:

***WHAT ARE LOCAL COUNCILS DOING WITH PUBLIC LAND?** This issue was presented by groups in London because of the growing concern in communities throughout the country that local councils are selling off publicly owned land, often gained after long struggles. Selling off council housing, building housing for sale on public land, and doing deals with developers on public land are examples. Local councils are driven into this position by a combination of Government policies and pressures from building companies. Councils are competing with each other to attract private investment and are offering bribes in the form of cheap land.

***LINKS BETWEEN COMMUNITY GROUPS AND BUILDING WORKERS.** Members of the Birmingham Green Ban Committee called for closer links and described how UCAIT and the community had stopped a plan to demolish the old Post Office building in Central Birmingham and redevelop the site for offices. They have submitted an alternative

plan to use the building as a leisure centre.

***PENSION FUNDS AND PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT.** Workers have no control over where their pension funds are invested--millions are pouring into speculative development. As long as pension funds must make "a good return" in order to pay out their pensioners there is little that can be done to change investment policies of the pension funds. We have to consider scrapping these funds altogether and set up state funds that do not depend on where they are invested. More publicity about the issue is needed in the movement.

After discussion of these three issues, it was decided to issue a press release and to support a conference next February organised by the Green Ban Committee. Community Groups in Nottingham who have had their funds cut off and the North Southwark Group whose funds are threatened suggested that at further conferences of the Inner City Alliance, the issue of finance for community groups should be taken up.

The Alliance is a purely ad hoc association of community groups anywhere in the country who share a common interest in the development of land for social and community purposes. Anyone wishing for copies of the reports of the first two conferences and the background papers should write to the Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road, SE1. Tel. 261-1404

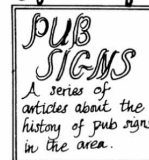


Now permanently moored off Odessa Wharf at Bermondsey Wall West, the "John Collet" (previously the Sara D from Malden) is to open in a month's time as a floating classroom. The project is run by Shaftesbury Homes and Arrethusa.

Major Smart of Shaftesbury Homes told SE1 that the John Collet is for children from Pargon and Trinity Schools in Southwark who have particular educational problems. The classroom accommodates 16 people; the headmaster is Mr Flood and workers are getting her shipshape.

The Golden Fleece

THE FLEECE is one of several signs (Woolpack, Weavers' Arms, Tam, Lamb, etc.) to remind travellers of the wool trade upon which, for several centuries, much of the nation's prosperity relied. The "Golden Fleece" has heraldic associations--this was the badge of the Knights Order of the Golden Fleece, founded in 1430 by Philip the Good, Duke of Burgundy. The Ram is derived from the crest of the Worshipful Company of Cloth Workers.



SCOUTING the NEW WORLD

ON MONDAY 14th AUGUST, MEMBERS OF THE 72nd NORTH CENTRAL LAMBETH SCOUT GROUP started a 3 week visit to their counterparts, Troop 461, Souderton, Pennsylvania. Scout Leaders David and Maureen Phillips, with their son Robert (a cub scout), stayed with a scout family in Green Lanes, while the Scout Leaders Tony and Maureen Mills, with their son Keith, a Scout, and their daughter Claire, a Brownie, stayed with a Scout family Telford.

We arrived at New York to find the temperature 95° and very humid. During the 3 weeks we all travelled over 2,000 miles visiting all the tourist spots on the Eastern side of the States. Visits included a week at the lakes by the Mills family, while the Phillips family went to Philadelphia, Washington and the Pocono Mountains. We all visited New York and found the city sadly neglected, the streets very dirty and the roads in bad need of repair, and the public transport although very cheap was badly maintained, the subway trains

were even covered with graffiti on the outside! It was a pleasant surprise to find that most food was comparable in price to ours, and all the shops had plenty of clothes made from natural fibres, wool and cotton, at half the London prices, but manmade materials were very expensive. It sounds very funny to hear the Americans complain about the price of petrol even though at most filling stations it was only 55 cents (27½p) per gallon.

We also visited an American elementary school, equivalent to our primary school, and found that they have the same problems as us, threats of closure and teachers expected to take classes of 40 or more pupils.

After hearing how much the Americans have to pay out of their wage packets on the essentials we take for granted (doctors, hospitals, fire brigade, dustmen, heavy car tax and part of the schooling bills) all we can say is thank God for England, it is not nearly half as bad as it seems.

What would YOU do with Lambeth Council?

ASK MOST PEOPLE WHAT THEY WOULD DO WITH THEIR LOCAL COUNCIL if they had the choice and the replies would probably be unprintable. Yet Lambeth Council is seriously asking residents, trade unionists, Council employees and local organisations how they think the Council should be run.

To many people borough councils are vast bureaucratic monsters that take months to make decisions which usually turn out to be wrong anyway. Those who know something about how councils work often say they are run by a hierarchy of paid officials and not by the elected councillors at all. Boroughs are said to be too big - it's hard to see how a councillor from Streatham can really know what's best for Waterloo.

Some of the questions and topics which are now up for discussion in this Special Review of Lambeth Council are as follows:

- * How should Council policy be decided?
- * How should the Council make best use of its money, land and staff?
- * What do you see as the role of a Councillor?
- * How can the Council be more accessible and responsive to the needs of local people?
- * Should the Council give more powers to neighbourhood councils?

Although the first period for sending suggestions is officially over, local Councillor Bryn Davies, who is in charge of this Special Review, said they still welcome all submissions. The Council hopes to implement any changes by May 1979.

The Association of Waterloo Groups is preparing a list of recommendations and Lambeth Trades Council has already come up with several proposals.

If you have any comments, write to: Chairman of the Special Review Committee, Lambeth Town Hall, Brixton, SW2 1RW.

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THOS E. DAVIES & CO (TOMS)

137 Southwark Bridge Road, SE1

Coin St

Waterloosays NO
Coin St must be
family housing
public open spa

OH H.Q. Pollute
NO MORE OFFICE ST.

ANOTHER SALVO HAS BEEN FIRED IN THE 'BATTLE OF WATERLOO' with office development consultants Derek Stephenson and Partners' press conference at which they presented their plans for developing the South Bank between Waterloo and Blackfriars Bridges. The press conference was held to publicise planning applications for the 5 Lambeth and 4 Southwark 'Coin Street' sites made on behalf of the Heron Corporation and Commercial Properties Ltd. The applications are for over 1 million sq ft of offices, a 400 ft high hotel (which if built would be the biggest in Europe), flats, shops and various sports and entertainment facilities.

As SE1 went to press, the Department of the Environment announced that they are "calling in" these office plans and also Lambeth Council's alternative proposals for family housing with gardens and old people's flats on 4 of the sites. An early public inquiry now seems likely.

Derek Stephenson and Partners say that their scheme includes 200 flats which would be sold to a local authority or a housing association and that these must be seen as an important planning gain for the community.

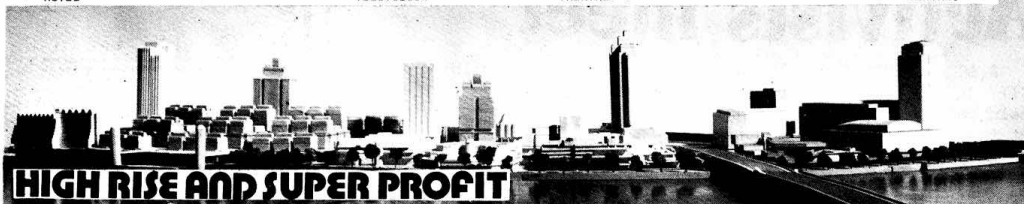
PLANNING GAIN?

But local resident Fred Miller, speaking on behalf of the Coin Street Action Group, told SE1, "The developers have a cheek calling this 'planning gain'. They propose to take away publicly owned land earmarked for low-rise family housing which local people would jump at the chance of living in, and instead they say we can have 200 non-family flats if we pay them 'yardstick prices', is the maximum the Government allow local authorities to spend on new housing."

"What the developers are really promising us is a solid chain of office blocks which will make North Southwark and North Lambeth look like New York without the Statue of Liberty. As an added bonus we will have to live with the piledriving and other building noises over the 10 year period which they say it will take to complete their scheme."

If you would like to oppose the office plans please get in touch with the Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road, SE1 (tel 261 1404) or the North Southwark Community Development Group, 108 Great Guildford St, SE1 (tel 928 8165). Letters objecting to the Heron/Commercial Properties proposals should be sent off within the next two weeks. Details from the above organisations.

KINGS REACH HOTEL IPC NEW OFFICES LONDON WEEKEND TELEVISION NEW OFFICES NATIONAL THEATRE NEW HOTEL FESTIVAL HALL SHELL CENTRE.



St Mungo Hostel On-Off?

TRESS HOUSE IN STAMFORD STREET is once again a likely location for St Mungos hostel for homeless men. After rejecting two alternative sites for the hostel in Vauxhall, the GLC are to reconsider the planning application for the hostel in Tress House. SE1's lead story in its August issue which suggested the hostel would go to Vauxhall has been proved untrue. The two alternative sites that have been rejected are in Bondway, Vauxhall, and apparently a third site in Bondway is also being looked at by St Mungos. Nevertheless, St Mungos have asked the GLC to consider their application for Tress House, probably at the Central Area Committee on 4th October.

The Waterloo Action Centre and the North Southwark Community Development Group have arranged a public meeting to discuss what action to take. The meeting will be held in Christchurch Hall, Blackfriars Road, on Wednesday 7th September. Cllr Hubert Sandford, Chairman of the GLC's Central Area Committee, who is thought to be personally opposed to the hostel scheme, has been invited to attend.

A major problem for the community is that St Mungos are supported financially by the GLC Housing Department, who have an interest in seeing St Mungos find alternative accommodation as soon as possible.

The community can take no comfort from the fact that Southwark Council are willing to give Elephant Jobs, the Job Creation project, planning permission for the site. Since the GLC own Tress House they can decide what goes on there.

SOCIAL WORKERS CONT'D...

have more in common with social workers in Newcastle or Liverpool. The only sensible way we see dealing with this situation for us to be treated like other Council workers, and to have local rates of pay sorted out between us and the Council, and that should be the rule for all social workers throughout the country.

On the question of what our pay and conditions actually are, did you know for instance that we have no fixed working week, only a 36 hour minimum - most of us do a lot more hours than that, involving evening visits. For this we do not get paid overtime, and are not even automatically entitled to time off to make up for the extra hours worked. Our pay varies according to whether we are qualified or unqualified, and how long we have worked for the Borough, but as an unqualified (but usually very experienced) social worker, take home pay is around £50 a week. A qualified worker can expect to start on about £55 a week.

Social workers in Southwark do care a lot about the people we serve. We have not taken strike action lightly, we are all worried about how those people we work with are coping, and are very angry with Southwark Council for forcing us into the position we are now in. We have been pleased to find that local people who have come to talk to us have been very sympathetic to us, and many have already complained to their councillors about the situation.

So if you want to help us, - and we do need your support, speak to your local councillor, to the Chairman of the Social Services committee Councillor Coveney, or leader of the Council Councillor O'Grady and ask them to meet with us to sort out this dispute.

Then we can all get back to work and carry on doing the job we want to do."

thanks, Strike committee.



Southwark and Lambeth residents marched from the Elephant to join 100,000 people at Brockwell Park, Brixton on Sunday 24th Sept. This is the Biggest march ever, so far, in Britain against racism. They were united in their opposition to all forms of racism and facism, in particular the Nazi National Front. Beware all fascists in SE1, the people won't fall for your lies any more.

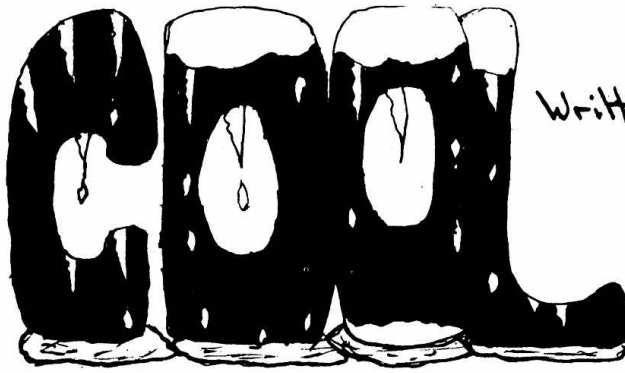
Bankside helicopter threat

THE BRITISH HELICOPTER ADVISORY BOARD, an organisation set up to represent the helicopter manufacturers, has applied for planning permission to build a floating "Helistop" off the north bank of the river opposite Trig Lane steps. It might be easier to picture if you think of the landing stage outside the Bankside power station. The proposed helistop is almost the same size as that and also almost directly opposite the power station.

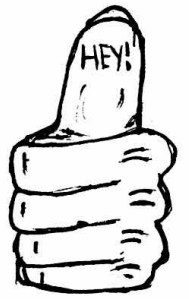
The helistop is planned to operate 5 days a week with a maximum of 7 landings and take-offs a day. This figure will be limited to helicopters carrying a maximum of 4 passengers plus one pilot. The main users are likely to be executives from the city, but the facility will be open to police and other emergency services.

The business people from the city are very keen on this proposal, as at the moment all helicopter traffic is through Battersea, which they say is too far from the city. Also the GLC is under pressure from the transport section to agree to the helistop. The GLC will decide on it in November or December.

The Waterloo Community Development Group have written to the GLC opposing the helistop saying that local residents already suffer with the present level of helicopter traffic. The North Southwark Community Development Group have also written opposing the helistop; in particular they are concerned with the effect it will have on their plans for housing on Bankside, and on people already living on Bankside.



October issue no.1 1978
Written by young people of S.E.1.



We have
tickets for two
Whizz Kidds,
who want to
see this film,
"Grease".
All you have
to do is find
a comical
caption
for the great
picture
inside.
Stay cool!

Thanks

SE1 wishes to thank Lambeth
Council for the grant that
made this supplement possible.

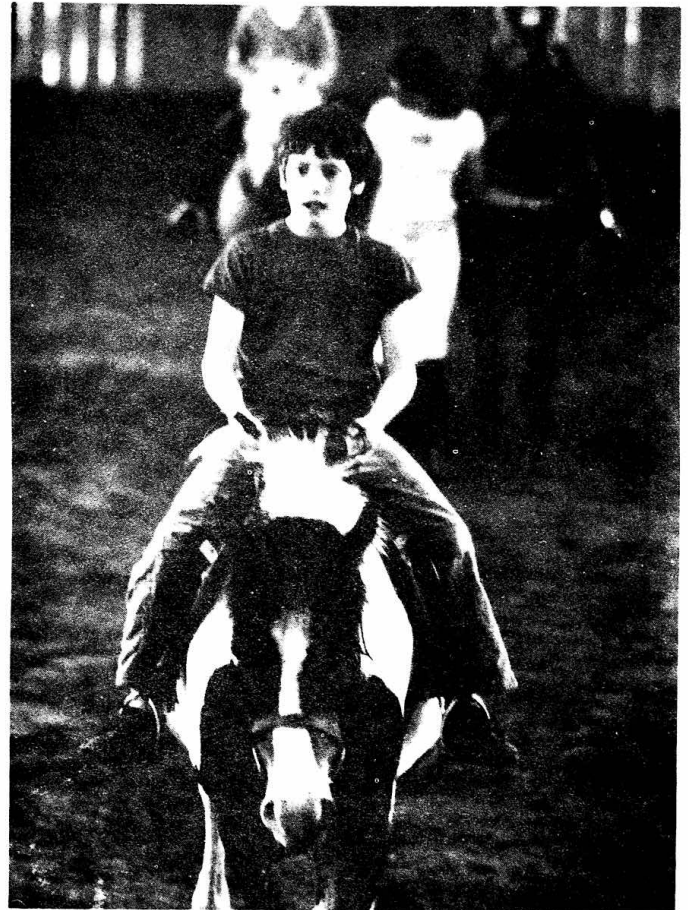
A RACING START

Members of the Blackfriars Settlement 'Wednesday Club' recently went on a club holiday. In the article which follows, Mary Olubudin explains what it was like for her.

On Saturday I went to Pickwick because I was going on camping. I went to Buckmore Park in Kent. It was fun. I had to take some children to the pool. When it was bedtime we went on a midnight walk. In the morning when we went to bed the ghost came, all the girls were frightened. There were 16 boys and 8 girls. The food was disgusting. We went roller-skating. We got up eight o'clock and went strawberry picking. We picked ten pounds.

We went horse riding. Louise fell off her pony - it was funny. We had a big barbecue with sausages, orange juice, baked potatoes and sweets, and the boys went in the nude swimming - the girls were not allowed to. They went go cart, but the girls did not. Ted Murphy tried to jump over the bonfire. He fell in but he was not hurt. It was a good holiday but I went home, because I had to go out.

One night we were on a midnight walk and we find a cat. We took the cat back to camp and gave it some milk and made a bed for it. We went to the mens caravan and I got water over me.



What do we do with the spoils after the war



After the long battle for Coin Street which will hopefully end soon, the conclusion being the locals come through with flying colours: What is to be done with it.

Most kids said they would like more adventure playgrounds discos, playing fields for football, rugby etc etc. One boy had the adventurous (in money terms) idea of a race track for karts also bikes, and for the benefit of beginners hopefully a medical section.

After an interview, a man introduced himself to me saying he could speak for the area quoting as follows: "The children of this area want low rise housing."

One little girl said she would like a small home with a little front garden with flowers.



If you fancy your hand at farming take a trip to the small farm situated on a couple of acres of waste land on the bend of the river Thames behind the Ship and Whale pub gate. To get there you have to go right through Redriff estate to the back.

For those who do not know their way around Rotherhithe it

may seem a tortuous journey, but it is certainly worth while. But come prepared, if it is a wet day bring wellies and the ability to ignore the typical farm smell.

The livestock consists of two dogs, one a big but gentle great Dane called Cleo; two horses - a stallion called Buster and Vision, a mare. There are 21 goats because they have not got

enough room to have cows. The goats include 3 kids. There are 50-60 chickens including 6 cocks; mother and son donkeys; plus geese, ducks, drakes and other sea birds.

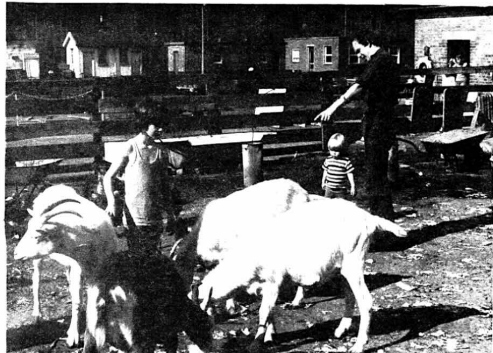
Ken Bushell mainly looks after the horses, feeds them, grooms and generally looks after them. The farm is funded from an urban aid grant of which the London Borough of Southwark pays 25%.

They do make a little money from the sale of eggs of which they get about 20-3 a day which is a poor figure for the number of hens they have, but as Ken Bushell points out a lot of the hens are older and not laying. Chickens lay more in spring and Easter because it is the natural laying time. There is also money to be made by selling yogurt and cheese they make from the goats milk. They get about two gallons a day from the seven milkers. They also make and sell their own honey. The only milk they sell as milk is for children suffering from infantile exema who cannot take cows milk. cheese.

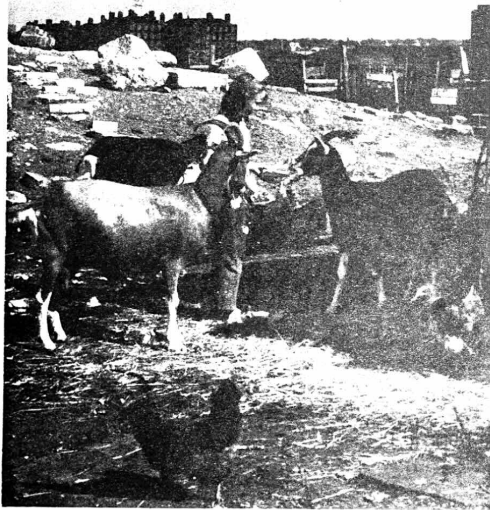
Ken and his helpers welcome children who want to learn about animals. They do not want children who just want to chase the animals. As he says "this is not an adventure playground with animals. We want the children to learn something".

They are also happy to receive a teacher with a class to occupy for the afternoon, but they prefer it if the teacher rang first and made an appointment: ring 858 4211 or 237 7490, by Sonia McPherson who goes to the farm to do 'Care of Animals' for the Duke of Edinburgh Award. They sell their health foods to the Blackheath Food Store and National Harvest.

One of the hired hands who lives on the farm is a young woman called Bumble. When asked why she was called Bumble she said she had been called Bumble from since she was a child. Another hired hand called Hopper helps Bumble to milk the goat twice daily. And Joyce helps in the dairy making yogurt and exema who cannot take cows milk. cheese.



goats galore!



GIRL'S RULE?

CHARTERHOUSE ARK
GIRLS' FOOTBALL CLUB

At our Club we decided to form a girls football team with the help of our coach, Richard (a helper at the Club). We contacted Roundabout Club for a friendly match on July 11th.

The girls that played were Sandra Jones, Karen Day, Debbie Jeffries, Tracey Murphy, Jackie Walker, Cilla, Marie McGuire. It was an exciting match with plenty of fouls and penalties. Of course, we won 8-4. After this match the team separated and on September 4th a new team was formed with Anita McCormack, Karen Day, Sonia McPherson, Tina Martin, Lesley Westwater and the subs being Pauline Day and Lesley Dawson, because it was a 5-a-side match.

We had a match against 5 boys from Charterhouse boys club. The boys were Darren, John, Paul, Keith and David. The girls team were 2 goals up in the first 10 minutes but then disaster struck and the boys scored 3 goals in a few minutes. At half time the score was 5-3

to the boys team. After 10 minutes rest we started the 2nd half with Karen in goal. The game carried on with the boys scoring every few minutes. At the end of the match the score was 11-6 to the boys. But we hope to win the return match on Tuesday 12th September. The referee was Richard.



roundabout bikes

You've gone out for the day on your motorbike to Brighton and are approaching the city centre when your bike stops to a sudden halt. What has gone wrong? Have you run out of petrol? Has your plug failed? There could be another dozen things wrong with it. You don't know so you have to leave your bike there and get a train home. Well,

Well, don't let this happen.

en to you. When your bike breaks down be able to have a go at fixing it.

If you attend your local bike club you would learn to fix your bike if it breaks down. At the Roundabout Youth Club we have such a club which takes place every Wednesday night from 7.30 till 9.30. There is great selection of tools, many of which are not possessed by the average DIY person. Also there is a teacher there to help you while you work and explain any difficulties you have. Hence by attending for even a few months you will learn a lot; - so when your bike breaks down you will be able to make an attempt to fix it and it will not result in getting a train home and having to go back another day to pick up a broken-down bike.

So come along one Wednesday night with or without your bike even if for only one night and see what's happening at the Roundabout's motorcycle club. The fee is only 10 pence for the night so that can't be bad.



LOOK TWICE at this picture - Is it real? This view from Mint Street Playground looking North does exist but the youngsters are standing in front of a mural - a painting on the wall of the Mint Street hut that you can see in the middle of the painting.

COMPETITIONS

COOL NEWS' WORST JOKE COMPETITION

These jokes are the worst that the young people who put this paper together could think of.

Can you think of any worse? Let us know - the Red Baron will judge the entrants and there is a £1 PRIZE for the worst joke we get - the Red Baron's decision will be final.

Q: Who came down the road in the first car?
A: Moses, he came in his Triumph.

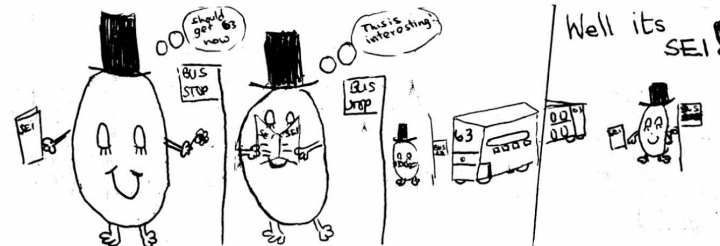
Grown up: Where are your parents child?
Child: They ain't in.
Grown up: Where's your grammar?
Child: Oh she's indoors.
Patient: Doctor, doctor I keep thinking I've only got 59 seconds to live.
Doctor: Hang on a minute will you.



COOL NEWS PICTURE COMPETITION
PRIZE: entrance fee to Grease in the cinema of your choice plus spending money!

Find a caption for the cubbie and complete it in the most apt and amusing way.

Send your answers to COOL NEWS c/o SE1, 12, Meynott St, London SE1.



the fight

ST PATRICKS

St. Patrick's is a small and homely school. With relatively few children in the school, each and every one of them has individual attention. St. Patrick's for that reason has highly qualified teachers. They have lovely teachers at the school and are very understanding.

The school has been fighting for over a year now for the school to stay open, and it's not certain yet that it is. The schools (St. Andrew's and St. Patrick's) are going to make a joint school - both schools have less than fifty pupils. But 70 to 80 is the official number of children for a school, so there is a very good chance that there will be a mixed school. So far there have been two matches, and both schools are regularly attending meetings to see how they can maintain pupils. The schools are now trying to get pupils from out of the area, but of course they will then have to supply a bus, and that is just about two hundred pounds a week of costs.

Samantha & Jenny

It's a great school with understanding teachers and a headteacher you can bring your problems to (if you have any) and best of all there are children you can talk to and learn with. It would be a great loss to see it close but of course it has only got forty-five pupils. When we asked our school friends about it they said they would all love the school to stay open. Of course with a school like this with ten and eleven in each class, the educational standard is very high, and that's one more reason why they want it to keep open.

Kim and Caroline.

SCHOOL EXAMS

My views on school exams are that they shouldn't be all rushed together in one week.

I think the exams should be spread out over a few months so that you can revise the different subjects properly, and then set a good grade.

I have just gone up into the 5th year at school, but the fourth year exams were no joke.

I remember having to revise like mad because the exams were all in one week. When the exams came round I found that my mind was quite muddled, this was because I had revised all of my subjects at once.

That's why I feel it would be better to spread the exams out a bit, so that you have plenty of time to learn everything there is to learn on each individual subject.

Tezess Shone

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

BEFORE WE EVER thought of doing the Duke of Edinburgh Award we had never heard of it. Mina, our club leader, asked six girls who were over the age of 14 if they were interested in the award. The six girls who were over the age of 14 if they were interested in the award. The six girls were Karen Day, Anita McCormack, Sonia McPherson, Sandra Jeffreys, Maureen Runcorn and Ann Bernard. Before we started the award we had to collect our record books off our trainer, Steve Campbell.

The Duke of Edinburgh consists of four parts:-

1. Service:

This is a course which lasts for 3 months. At the end you would have to pass a test. If you pass your test you will have the first part signed in your little record book.

2. Interest:

This lasts for 6 months. In this part you will do something that you are interested in eg photography. At the end of the six months your instructor will sign the section in your book headed 'interest'.

3. Design for living:

This topic lasts for 6 weeks. It is mainly for girls, but boys could do it. This consists of a topic eg 'health and beauty' or 'the art of flowers'. At the end of 6 weeks your instructor signs your book headed 'design for living'.

4. Expedition:

This topic lasts for as long as the instructor thinks you need to learn everything eg map reading, compass bearing. For the bronze award you will have to walk at least 7 miles. This is also entered into your record book. The instructor looks at a log book with notes of what you did on the 7 mile walk.

At the end of the Award your record is sent to the head office and if they think that you deserve it, you will get the bronze award.

For our service we did First Aid at Trinity House youth club.

For our design for living we did health and beauty - care of skin nails, hair, and cooking.

Last but not least we did our expedition at the Aylebury Day Centre. Our instructor was called Sheila. She taught us how to map read, how to use a compass and how to plan a route. She also assessed us on our log books.

Since doing the bronze award we develop and print all photos for Charterhouse with the photographic equipment bought for the club.

Some of us hope to be doing the silver award next year.



HAPPINESS

Sing a song of happiness
sing a song of joy,
just like a baby
with a brand new toy.
Laugh and sing
while you go on your way,
and happiness will
forever stay.

Sharon Conroy

THAMES

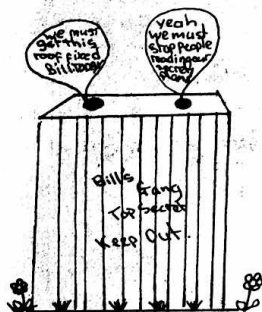
I'd love to live beside the
river,
To watch the boats go sailing by,
Under bridges, over waters.
Travelling, travelling
Isn't it fun.

I'd love to wake to hear the
bell of Ben,
And not be late for school again!
For if I had a clock as big as
that,

I'd never, never
Isn't it clever!

My last is simple
Because my home is London
And I love it so
That's why!
Bye Bye
For now.

Clare Wilson.



WINTER

The nights grow dark
the weather gets cold
no flowers left in the park
leaves turn from green to gold.
The clouds get grey
and more indoors
we seem to stay
only to go out for more stores.
The rain falls harder
and the wind blows,
people stay in the warm getting
tired
everyone likes it when the
winter goes.

Sharon Conroy

IN MY BEDROOM

Sitting here nothing to do
looking at the flowers on my
wall paper.
Nothing to do
Fed up
Bored
See the falts through my bed-
room window
lisning to my musical box.

Fed up
Got a toothach
And a head ach
It fills like it's going
to last a week

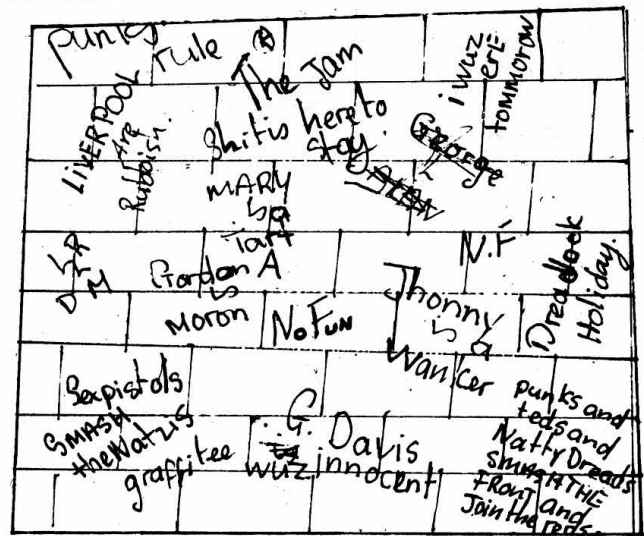
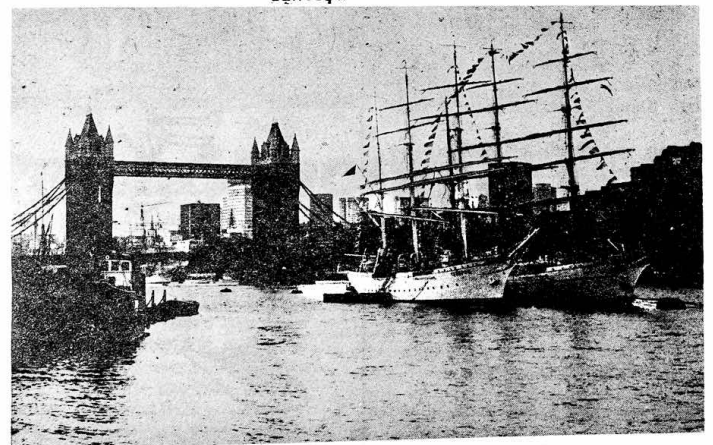
The leaves are turning up and
going brown.

Winter is on its way.
The bitter bite is searing in,
And cutting with its icy tip,
into
The spirit of summer, immersing
Life in the December and January
freeze

The walls are glossed by the
Never ending hail of bitter
winter.

Sun is shining
Wind is blowing
Motors and lorries going pass
Clouds are light and bright
looking through the windows
People are talking.

Margaret Barry



'COOL NEWS' contribution to the world of literature.