SEE P.8

THE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER FOR NORTH SOUTHWARK AND WATERLOO

NO. 40. MARCH 79 8p

WORKERS WE SUPPORT YOU C

Huge piles of stinking, smouldering rubbish, murderous ice-sheeted roads and pavements, no local burials - these are the most acute problems caused by Southwark Council's refusal to negotiate on their manual workers' claim for £60 a week. The Borough's dustmen, roadgritters and gravediggers have been on strike for four weeks, spearheading the fight for a living wage for all Council manual workers.

The unions involved, the National Union of Public Employees, the General and Municipal Workers' Union and the Transport and General, have exempted key humanitarian services from the action. Meals on Wheels drivers and Home Helps still do their rounds, and private contractors are permitted to collect refuse from local hospitals.

The manual workers feel bitter about the savage media campaign being waged against them. Mark Sanders, Area Officer for N.U.P.E., points out that "All we are asking for is two-thirds of the average national wage, and the press call us greedy. Some of my members take home less than £40 a week, but no-one gives a damn about them



until they protest". In national talks, a paltry 9% has been offered. Mark Sanders says he will be unhappy with any offer which is not in double figures.

Southwark Council has made no move to end the dispute, unlike Camden where the ruling Labour Group has agreed to meet the manual workers' claim. Despite a promise from the Council early in the strike to issue a statement supporting the low pay demands, none has appeared. Southwark's Industrial Relations Emergency Committee meets frequently in secret session but has made no approach to the Unions to reach a settlement. So long-suffering Southwark residents may for some time yet have to put up with putrid heaps of rubbish and roads and pavements which are unsafe to venture on.

It could get worse unless the Council agrees to talk. According to the unions, the men are "absolutely solid and determined" and are being supported with money raised from a levy of their non-striking colleagues. Mark Sanders warns that "there will be escalation unless some moves are made very shortly". He will not say exactly what the unions have in mind, but they may direct their industrial action more forcefully against Southwark Councillors. Perhaps the Councillors should take a look at what has happenned in Tower Hamlets and think again. Across the river the Council's operations have ground to a halt because of strike action, with the Town Hall closed down. Is this what Southwark Council want? We doubt if local residents do.

CUT CO-OP CHOPPED

There has recently been a move to close our local Co-op supermarket and butchers in the Cut. The Royal Arsenal Co-operative Society Head Office has stated that the two branches in the Cut have been losing money heavily over the last three years, because there are not enough people in Waterloo.

Local residents have noticed a deterioration in the service and facilities there in this period, and suggest that the loss of population isn't the only reason for loss of trade.

Many of our local senior citizens have supported both Cut shops for many years, and still do. We say to the R.A.C.S. Head Office that trade with both residents and commuters would improve if they either:

- Improved and expanded the supermarket over the butcher's shop; or
- 2. Improved and expanded the supermarket into the rebuilt David Greig's in Waterloo Road:
- 3. Improved and expanded the supermarket into the new premises in the King's Reach complex on Stamford Street, where they aleady have a R.A.C.S. travel agency.

CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX, col. 4)
SATURDAY MORNING IN THE CUT, in
the days when hats cost 2/6d
and the shops flourished: 1895

Bankside Inquiry

DON'T FORGET that the Bankside Public Inquiry begins on March 13th at Southwark Town Hall. Many local people are writing in to the Inquiry, some are appearing to speak and others will be just going along to listen.

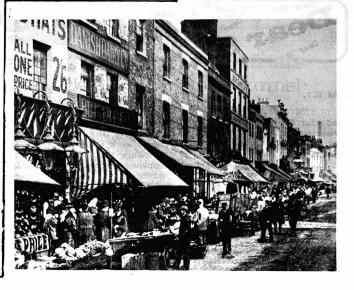
It is hoped that we can get one of the sessions held at the Borough Community Centre, Southwark Bridge Road, so that local residents can go along in the evening to hear the arguments and support the community's case for housing.

Housing v. offices

The Inquiry is about whether or not there should be a family housing development on Bankside overlooking St Paul's. Southwark have objected to the proposal and have put forward their own ideas for - yes, you've guessed-offices and a Globe Theatre.

Everyone is welcome at the Inquiry at Peckham Town Hall, peckham Road, SE5 beginning on Tuesday March 13th at 10.30. The Inquiry is likely to last at least a week 10am to 5pm. Phone NSCDG on 928 8165 for more details.





LET'S NOT BE FOOLED!

SE1 will be oetting a knock on the door from Southwark Council asking them IF THEY WANT TO TAKE PART IN PLANNING THEIR

Now don't all laugh at once, because what may seem like a belated desture from Southwark that neonle in SF1 do have views and should be consulted, could in fact be a deliberate attempt to undermine the many established oroups and tenants associations and individuals who have been taking part in the North Southwark Local Plan over the past three years.

BERMONDSEY GLC:NOSALE

DICKENS ESTATE TENANTS IN BERMONDSEY have scored a victory in persuading the GLC not to sell off two blocks on the estate. George Tremlett. GLC Housing Chief, told the Tenants Association last year that Domby and Nickelby Houses would be sold off rather than improved. But following strong protests Mr Tremlett has now written to Tenants Association chairnerson Eddie Hart savino the GLC's difficulties "have been overcome" and said that the TA was important in creating community spirit on the estate. Mr Hart told SE1 "We are thank-

ful that the GLC have had a **Tenants Centre**

change of heart."

A derelict wharf in Bermondsey can be turned into a housing/sports/small industry centre for the local community. This is the plan being put forward by the Dickens Estate Tenants Association for the Chambers Wharf nearby. An architect has drawn up detailed drawings which will be presented to the Council. We wish the project Good Luck!

Plan has not come well for the Council, Whereas in other parts of the borough there has been a very poor response to the Local Plan public consultation, in North Southwark, especially in Cathedral and Riverside wards, there has been a very good response. The only trouble is that it's not what the Council wants to hear.

Set on a course of destroying the area by encouraging commercial office development, they have had to concede, because so many residents have said it, that people want housing not offices. It is known that Mr Ceri Griffiths, Director of Development, does not consider nousing as an option, and so faced with this contradiction they have had to come up with a face-saving formula for setting the Council's policy.

The formula they have come up with is "community panels". There will be one panel to each ward, six in all, and each panel will consist of eight residents. representatives of four orouge and local councillors. Of course if meanle in Bricklayers and Rotherhithe wards can be persua ded that offices is what is needed, because they have enough nousing already, then this can be used to undermine the people of Cathedral, Riverside and Chaucer wards.

The next stage of the Local Plan is about to start with local people being asked for views on a number of ontions which the Council has prepared on the basis of public response from two previous stages. Now it has come to a critical time and decisions will shortly have to be made on the future of SE1. The Community Panels will have to be watched and any residents who feel they are being pressured Jenny told us all about the comby the Council into accepting certain options must protest loud and clear, SF1 will be following their progress with



Southw'k kids

ON SATURDAY the 10th February nant for us, especially for the the old library in Southwark Bridge Road re-opened as a community centre. The first event to take place was the second Annual General Meeting of the Southwark Child Care Campaign.

The meeting was very successful, even though they were minor Centre; it is obviously crucial teething problems with heating and a lack of furniture (!) that with local organisations in the should all be sorted out soon.

The campaign used their AGM as an opportunity to launch a publicity drive, with leaflets. hadoes and halloons. An information book will be available shortly giving up-to-date details on all the facilities available in the Borough for the under-fives. The booklet also functions as a campaigning document stating the aims of our campaign.

The guest speaker for the meeting was Jenny Williams from the Westway Nursery Association. munity nursery centre where she works in North Densington which is a combined nursery school and day nursery. Her experience and information was very perti-

people of North Southwark, as the council is planning to build a Nursery Centre at Redriff. At the moment however the council are not making any information available. If Redriff is to be a community Nursery that the council work closely planning stages, so that the centre will fulfill the needs of local people.



The Campaion also announced that it has received a Docklands Urban Aid grant for two workers to work in the Surrey Docks area for a period of five years. The main function of the project will be to work towards improving childcare facilities in the Docklands concentrating on the needs of working people and the under-fives.

Southwark Council is well known for its tight fisted attitudes in providing facilities for its children. Its attitudes towards supporting and facilitating childminders is no different. We have recently produced a discussion document on childminding, which is available from the campaion address. We would be olad to send anyone a free copy, and to receive any comments on the text.

IF YOU CARE about Southwark's kids and the needs of working parents, and would like to know more about our campaign. CONTACT:

> Nikki Road Portakabin Offices St. Alisans Hall Penton Place SE17 tel: 701 1038/9

HAY'S WHARF HUSH UP

The revaluation coincides

with the expiry of development

options taken out 5 years ago

by two property companies. Hays

Wharf hope to redevelop Tooley

ment. especially offices, which

trades unionists and community

Takeover talk

Some newspapers have said

that the new valuation makes

a takeover bid, possibly by

the Kuwait Investment Office

who already own 32% of the

shares. Southwark Council's

role in the affair is crucial

because if it refuses permiss-

ion for large scale commercial

development the shares will be

Meanwhile Hays Wharf have

now sold off all their property

to the west of London Bridge.

In particular, they have sold

Hibernia Wharf and New Hibernia

vervalued.

Hays Wharf more attractive for

Street for commercial develop-

will by strongly opposed by

longstanding Chairman of the Proprietors of Hays Wharf, has refused to tell his shareholders how much the so-called "golden acres" of Hays Wharf are worth. He was asked if he would make available a report from Jones, Lang and Wooton, valuation experts retained by the company.

The report was mentioned in the Company's Annual Report. which showed the overall worth of the Company's properties valued at £19.5 million, £6.8 million up on 1977. The key detail not shown is how much of the increase arises from the revaluation of the Company's extensive holdings in Southwark.

C.H.C. reject private hospital in Tooley St.

IN SOUTHWARK prepared by a subcommittee of Guy's Community Health Council (CHC), was challenged by a full CHC meeting on 25th Jan . The sub-committee had been set up by the CHC to consider the effects on the NHS in the Guy's District of a proposal by a consortium of Guy's consultants to build a private hospital at Chamberlain's Wharf, Tooley St.

The original planning application for a hospital was turned down by Southwark Council after objections from local groups including the CHC. the North Southwark Community Development Group and Southwark Trades Council. The Consortium has appealed against this decision and the application is to be the subject of a public inquiry in

The sub-committee listened to

evidence in favour of the private hospital from two buy's consultants, including Mr T. Lewis, one of the leaders of the consortium, and the District finance officer but no local residents appeared before the committee. It was heavily criticised by members of the CHC because of this lack of local consultation. The local member, George Appleyard, also felt that the CHC should be looking more deeply into private medicine and its effects on the NHS as a whole rather than just one particular development.

After thirty minutes debate the CHC upheld the Sub-committee recommendation to oppose the development on Chamberlain's Wharf because it would pre-empt local plans and any piecemeal development of the riverside would prevent future comprehensive planning for the area. The other recommendation was amended to say that the CHC would reserve its judgement on other site in the area.

Wharf for £3.3 million, Both sites were sold with planning permission for offices - a successful speculation.

At the meeting with shareholders Sir David lectured his persistent questioners - "You have a lot to learn" he told

Releasing the information they wanted, he said, "would not be in the best interests of the company."

In Whose Interest?

Why is it not in the hest interests of the Company to reveal the value of their land in Tooley Street? It is certainly in the best interests of the local community that we know exactly what the Proprietors of Hays Wharf are up to.

The community wants Southwark to buy the Hays Wharf site for housing and open space, and it thinks the Council should be able to buy this land at a price that reflects its dereliction and underuse, not its speculative value.

Southwark joins local groups to oppose offices

Local groups joined with Council planning officers last week, at a public inquiry in opposing a speculative office development in Union Street near Blackfriars Road. local developer called Mr. Birrane built a structure in 1973 which was by design an office building, but he did not have permission for an office in that locality because it was an industrial area. Ever since then he has been trying to get the council to allow an office use in the building.

Both Southwark Trades Council and the North Southwark Community Development Group gave evidence at the Inquiry,



saying that the building could be used for industrial purposes The developers were a bank. United Dominions Trust, to whom the owners are in debt. They were represented by an eminent Q.C. called George Dobry who is quite well known in some circles for reports on planning. However he was unable to make much out of the case he brought because apparently there was no good reason to allow an office in an industrial area. Other owners may get the idea they can sell out to developers if someone gets an office planning

It is to be hoped that the Inspector from the Dept. of the Environment who heard the evidence, listened to the excellent case put by South-Wark Council, the NSCDG and the Trades Council.

Blackfriars rail tunnel

A RAIL TUNNEL BETWEEN BLACK-FRIARS and Farringdon which has not been used by passengers for 62 years may become a link between British Rail's services north and south of the Thames. By opening the tunnel and rebuilding the disused Snow Hill station beneath Holborn Viaduct it would be possible to route up to eight trains an hour from the Southern Region through Blackfriars to West Hampstead via Farringdon, Kings Cross and Kentish Town. The plan is part of a £12million plan prepared by the GLC and British Rail.

TRADE MART KO'D

Surrey Docks Breathes Again

Southwark Trades Council has welcomed the decision of Peter Shore, Environment Minister, not to give financial backing to the £50 million Trade Mart proposed for the Surrey Docks.

Together with other local organisations, the Trade Council has campaigned against the Trade Mart scheme since 1974, believing that it was the wrong sort of development for the Surrey Docks and that it was never an economically viable proposition. The Trades Council's position has now been vindicated. Peter Shore has accepted that the Trade Mart was nothing more than a huge property speculation which the Government is not prepared to underwrite.

With the demise of the Trammell Crow Trade Mart venture, Southwark Council's strategy for the Surrey Docks. foisted on the Borough by means of specially tailored land use plans, lies in tatters. Both Southwark and the Greater London Council now have the

opportunity to proceed, belatedly, with a realistic alternative strategy.

The Trades Council put forward such an alternative in 1977, based on the need for local industrial regeneration. It proposed that all 134 acres of thr Trade Mart site should be used for industrial development, using local authority planning powers to ensure proper control of the development. It also called for a joint approach to the National Enterprise Board to obtain investment finance for new and existing firms, and re-emphasised the urgent need to include 3000-4000 units of Council housing in the Docklands redevelopment.

Southwark's closed door policy towards the future of the Surrey Docks must now be scrapped. The time has come for open debate about the best use for the Trade Mart site. without the threat of Trammell Crow or the equally fantastic 'New Era Leisure' scheme (how much do they want?) hanging over the public's head.



ters

DEAR SE1.

I feel, having just read your Christmas issue, that I must put the record straight concerning your item entitled "Driven Bats".

"The study in time and motion" was, in fact, not a video unit recording John Alderton & Co., but a film unit working on a commercial for Smith's Criens. London Weekend Television recorded their insert ouside 12a Theed St. which as the residents know. is bracketed between industrial and commercial properties and not in the residen-

Now I know that a certain amount of inconvenience arises out of such situations, but great endeavour is placed on minimising this, and also the police were there at all times to ensure that nothing untoward happened that was not entirely necessary.

My sympathies go out to the permit holders of car parking enaces as these were occupied by personnel of the film unit and, in spite of appeals by us, we were met by smiling noncommittals.

I hope that this goes somewhat towards explaining the happennings on that fateful day Yours Martin Brierley Production Manager, Location Productions. London Weekend Television, Upper Ground, SE1.



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

Tenants' own plan for Tanswell Estate

Anyone living in SE1 will be aware of the poor state of the courtyard areas on the Tanswell estate.

Between the five blocks on the estate there are large bleak areas of tarmac, often flooded by blocked drains and used by many commuters as a cheap alternative to the National Car Park on Waterloo Rd.

Tanswell tenants have, for a good many months, been asking their landlord - the GLC - to carry out basic environmental improvements to the onen space.

They would like to see it made into a safe play area for their children and into a space adults and old age pensioners might be able to enjoy.

Residents of SE1 will know, all too well, of the total lack of parks and open space in the area. Families will know how far they must take their children to find a safe play space.

The GLC, however, appear to be blissfully unaware of these problems.

Chairman of the GLC's Housing

they were promised that environmental improvements would be carried out on the estate during 1979/80.

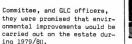
The tenants have since been informed that they "misunderstood" what had been said at the meeting, and that what had been meant was that "nlanning" of the improvements would begin in 1979/80.

The actual work would not begin for at least three to four years.

Faced with the contradict. ions and negligence of the GLC Tanswell tenants decided that the only way to ensure that something happened was to do it themselves.

With considerable help and quidance from a landscape architect tenants came up with detailed plans, which they submitted to the Lambeth Inner City Partnership alono with an application to finance the scheme.

It is particularly fitting to make the application to Lambeth At a meeting Tanswell tenan- as the Partnership have already ts had with Mr George Tremlett, agreed to finance the landscaping of the adjacent National Car Park.



Quinn Buildings half-sale

UINN BUILDINGS, WATERLOO ROAD The 63 flats nearing comp-

letion on Waterloo Road will be sold by the GLC to the Greater London Secondary Housing Association Ltd. The GLSHA will be organising a co-ownership co-operative. nder this scheme people living n the flats will not pay rent but will pay a mortgage for hal the value of their flat. The GLSHA will retain ownership of the other half.

30% of the flats will be allocated to nominations from Southwark Council, 30% from the GLC and the rest from the housing association's own waiting list.

The GLSHA are unable to say what the rent of the flats will be, but they claim that monthly payments should be relatively

Toys

Black people get better housing deal

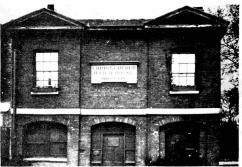
A NEW SYSTEM TO ENSURE THAT BLACK PEOPLE get a fair share o the more attractive council housing in Lambeth is being set up by the Council. Lettings on new estates and modernised properties are to be carefully monitored to make sure that 30% of these more desirable homes go to black people. This target figure is the

same as the overall proportion of black families being rehouse in Lambeth Council Housing but there is evidence that black people, though comprising only 25% of the population in the borough, are living in poorer quality housing than white people and the new policy is aimed at reversing this trend. However the Council's own Advisory Group on Race Relations an Housing has reported that the proportion of black people in housing need is nearer 40% than

Councillor Matthew Warburton chairperson of Lambeth's Housing Committee said the 30% figure was an overall borough-wide figure and there was no question of applying a quota system on a particular estate. "What we are aiming at is to share out our most desirable homes more fairl on the basis of need."



ABOVE . FLEPHANT AND CASTLE 100 YEARS AGO BELOW: WATCH-HOUSE FORMERLY ON CHRISTCHURCH VICARAGE, COLOMBO ST.



community banner that I wave at all. I'm only interested really in environmental projects that interest

Playing with the

SE1 has quite a few theatres, Vet some of the theatres seem to be run solely for meanle outside the area. So recently SE1 went to the Young Vic to interview its new director, Michael Bogdanov and asked him about the Young Vic and the local commun-

Bogdanov was hired by the Young Vic in April after direct- with very far-reaching social Christmas. Besides direction shows like Shakespeare's Richard III, Hamlet and The Tempest. he has been trying to develop the programmes for young people, schools, and the community.

SE1: What kind of community involvement would you like to see at the Young Vic?

MB: That really would depend on how long I'm here. For the two years that I'm supposed to be here it's really a question of spraying the community with output which I hope will be a high standard. It can't be anything more than basically a contact phase. I mean. a community is always hostile to an alien queen bee, sitting in its midst, and, Art for the Masses is not a

own pending inquiry, over our

having family housing built on

the Coin St (South Bank) sites.

Neighbourhood Council) and Lam-

beth Council. Them being the

Tory GLC who own the land and

cial development and the devel-

opers, the Heron Corporation.

That is where we collide, so a

third party, the public inquiry

inspector, is called in to sort

But we are now finding out

that there is a great imbalance

and injustice to some and big

system. The imbalance arrives

over what is needed for public

inquiries such as professional

Unlike ourselves, the opposition

can call on all these benefits:

private companies can use funds

from their profits, the GLC uses

benefits to others in this

representation and finance.

out the pros and cons of all

parties concerned.

aim to recenrate Waterloo by

Us being the Association of

Waterloo Groups (the local

ARE PUBLIC

a community for its own sake. rather than hoisting on them stuff they don't want to see. don't want to have anything to do with, and only repard as an intrusion.

SE1: What about doing shows which relate to the problems and the people of the area?

MB: I think where we can't make any headway initially is ing at the National Theatre last programmes that smack of agitprop. or commitment to an idealoov, which maybe we have, but its very difficult to pinpoint at the moment. We're not yet in a strong enough position to tackle that properly with impunity. I would think that would be a late development after the fun and games of the contact phase is over. It's very difficult. You have to get a community to trust you before you can actually do the things about them that affect them. that they relate to properly. This country isn't very politically conscious in its theatre output, and the populace do not respond. The funny thing is they respond to television quite etropoly.

POWER STATION TO SHUT DOWN

From next April, Bankside Power Station is 'going cold' for the other 84 generators in the for six months. What this means is that during those months no power at all will be produced at Bankside. This is another step towards the complete closure is because Bankside has become closure of the nower station. first revealed in SE1 in October 1976. As predicted the, the Landline from New Cross was connected in 1977 and the two older of the three generators in the Station shut down.

Since then, the generator that remained has been brought into operation only when extra power in the S.E. Region was required. Before the Landline was connected from New Cross, Bankside had a special role in producing power for Central London, but since connection it close in the early 1980's.

now has to compete for work with low. region. All generators are in a league table, and oly used when other more efficient generators cannot cope with the demand. It progressively out of date that the longer closure is now proposed.

There is a good deal of uncertainty about the effect of these moves on the jobs of the people currently employed in the power station. There are rumours of redundancies, and some of those now employed at Bankside have been offered other jobs in the region - but this would mean travelling some distance to work. It looks as though the station will

CHARTERHOUSE TOY LIBRARY OPENED LAST NOVEMBER at 40 Tabard Street, and whilst at the moment the premises are small, everyone is welcome to come along with their kids for a chat and a cup of tea on any Wednesday afternoon between 2.30-4.30.

The toy library operates on the same basis as a lending library and though limited by both space and the number of toys, it has slowly flourished and any child from 0 to 10 years old can come alono and borrow a

There is a small joining charge of 10p per family and then 2p each time a toy is borrowed. but there are no fines if a toy is late in being returned or if it's broken as it is better if the toy has been well used than to come back looking as if it has never been out of the box!

If a part of a toy has been mislaid, the child or parent is asked to keep an eve out for it at home and bring it back if it turns up. Already pieces of toys have been discovered in

cooker, or even stuck in a spin drver!

The permanent premises for the Toy Library are to be in Crosby Row, and will beready by April. Then there will be more room for mums and kids to have fun choosing the toy that they want to take home. In the meantime, come along on Wednesday afternoon for some fun and games - or even just a cup of tea: 40 Tabard Street. SE1.

FOOTBALL MATCH

The sponsored football match to raise money for the Charterhouse Toy Library went ahead on January 27th, not as planned in Tabard Park (because of the public employees strike) but in the gym at the boys' club.

Even so, there was a large turnout of player for both sides and plenty of spectators. I think I can say everybody had a nood time. I was surprised at the standard of play from the ladies! team. especially their goalkeeper Clara Arokiasamy, who kept the men from making it a

fact that the ref. Mr. Harrington was slightly biased as he kept making wrong decisions and giving the free kicks to the women even though it was them that did all the fouling.

Poor Pam Debrick broke two fingers in her brave attempt in defence (she says she would go through it all again). Pat Buckland had to retire because of a bruised leg. Stella Scanlon did well in defence, with Val Smith Dot Parsons and Antoinette Rice who all scored dubious goals before the end.

Bert Nolan, once he realised what sex he was, played well at back for the men - often being the only one left in defence. Derek Smith came on as substitute, and proved to be the man of the match with Lingham Moodley, who also won the Knobbly Knees competition at half-time. The final score was Men 28 Women 25, which was very close. Already £100 has been collected, to go towards buying

new toys.

public money (our money) for all OF COURSE PUBLIC INQUIRIES their costs. In fact the GLC are ARE NECESSARY, BUT ARE THEY RIGHT AND JUST when different using our money to fight us with by hiding behind and supporting organisations and local authothese private companies who are rities come head on in a collision course over different completely against what the attitudes and policies. local community wants. It could be over, say, a new airport, major road, or like our on our side can use public money.

GOVERNMENT HELP TO FIGHT THEIR CASE AT PUBLIC INQUIRIES.

Even Lambeth Council who are But where does it leave us, the public? We also have expenses but where do we get the money from? Where do we get the money to hire the professional skills which are needed at these high powered Inquiries. We will of course make our own representation at the inquiry, because we want to use the land for commerlive and know what is need in the Waterloo area. We have lodged our own planning application for the Coin Street sites but we need the architects and lawyers to back it up. L'eaflets, posters and publicity all cost time and money. So although we have called the tune we have to pay the piper and with the others using public money we have to pay for three pipers. What is needed is some sort of Government sponsored resource bank set up for any community

group to use. It should not only be cash but also a manpower bank for all the professional skills needed. Community groups cannot make their best representation on funds raised from jumble sales

Colombo Street Sports and **Community Centre** tel:261 1658

BOXING TOURNAMENT

L'RIDAY 9th MARCH 1979

REFRESHMENTS AND LICENSED BAR DOORS OPEN 6.30 BOXING SHOW 7.30

TICKETS £1.

MAIN HALL AND MEETING ROOMS FOR HIRE... SOCIALS AND GOOD WEDDINGS WELCOMED.

USUAL SPORTING ACTIVITIES EG SHORINJI KEMPO, BOXING, KARATE, BADMINTON, OAP'S DANCING

Anyone interested in starting other activities, make yourself known. Starting soon, COLOMBO STREET SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE, COLOMBO STREET, SE1



FASCISTS GO WRONG WAY

On Monday 12 February, a coachload of National Front supporters arrived at South Bank Poly, hoping to disrupt a meeting being held there. Thanks to some quick thinking on the part of Polytechnic staff, the NF were sent off in the wrong direction, and trouble was avoided.



The campaign is hotting up now.

All the work is simed at the

at least 2 months and will

in March).

offices.

Public Inquiry which will last

probably start on 22 May (with

a very important 12-day meeting

will be delivering 2 leaflets

every household within the next

month. These explain the many

ity's housing and open space

the opposition's plans for a

in plans for an even larger

Lambeth Council have just

space plans, and to our applic-

ation for money with which to

fight the Public Inquiry.

hotel containing even more

given formal support to the

community's housing and open

and a skyscraner botel.

plans, and the full horrors of

million square feet of offices

The opposition have just put

and a coloured windsw noster to

different ways that YOU CAN HELP

the details of the local commun-

The Coin Street Action Group

Campaign hots up

This incident was a cond example of the continuing need for local people to be aware of NF activities in our area. Such episodes are happening all the time, but often go unreported in the press.

The meeting a: the Poly was part of an 'Anti-Racist Week of Action! and the main encakere were Ted Knight (Leader Lambeth Council) and Peter Hain (of the Anti-Nazi League).

Peter Hain described the ANL's activities over the past 18 months, both in trying to make more people aware of the issues involved and in trying to reduce the numbers of electors who vote for the NF. He warned us of the NF's intention to nut forward a

so long, so complicated and so

important that the local comm-

unity needs all the help and

Hospital the forthcoming General Flection. He called for meonle of North Southwark and North Lambeth to be prepared to take a stand against such people.

DANGER TO HEALTH SERVICES in local hospitals and clinics has brought together trades councils and hospital unions in the Lambeth, Southwark and Lewisham Area Health Authority. The unions are determined to give the fullest publicity to the cuts that are threatened. Their campaign will begin with action to prevent the planned closure of St Giles Hospital in Camberwell. Leaflets are to be ciculated to all local hospitals and a lobby of the Area Health Authority will take

The Health Authority is facing huge cuts ordered by David Ennals, the Health Minister. Many people are finding the queues for operations intolerable even now. A joint campaion linking workers in the health service and community organisations is essential.

DEODLE LIVING NEAR BLACKERTARS ROAD : DO YOU HAVE A SON AGED 8 to 10 VEARS 2

The cubs - the junior section of the scouts - are operating in VOUR area.

Our pack meets on Friday evenings, from 6.30 - 8.30 p.m., at Christchurch House, Chancel St., SE 1. Come along.

SEI BUALL

and to work for racial harmony

in times of economic crisis.

some people prefer to blame

rather than admit that the

are wrong. The NF then take

harrassment of black people.

carry on fighting on basic

Ted Knight called for people to

issues which sffect all of us.

housing, more jobs, fewer cuts

Other events in the Week

and ended with an Open Meeting

of Action included films,

theatre groups and concerts.

led by speakers from local

Anti-Racist orouns.

whatever our colour: better

advantage of such feelings

and use them to provoke

Ted Knight reminded us that

others, such as minority oroups.

Government's economic policies

not conflict.

in services.

12 Meymott Street, S.E.1. tel: 928:1643

professional expertise that we can get. We have therefore applied to Trust Funds for money to pay for leaflets, posters. phone calls.duplic-

ating, research, expert witnesses and legal advice. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO

SHOW THAT LOCAL PEOPLE ARE PREPARED TO GIVE MONEY, and so collection boxes will be in local pubs and advice centres. A bank account in the name of 'South Bank Campaign Fund' has been opened at the Midland Bank York Road.SE1. Donations can be sent there or to Water oo Action Centre.

The most important inoredient in this Public Inquiry will be the demonstration of local support for the housing and open space plans. Please read our leaflets carefully to see all the ways you can show your support.

looking for people to help produce the paper. You could decide what ones into each issue. Or why not spend an paper together?

> Paste-up:24 and 25 March 11am. Perhaps you would rather help by distributing the paper (sale or return) to your friends and

Whatever you do, don't just the fun!

SE1 NEEDS YOU! The only way a community paper can do its job properly is by hearing news and views from its readers, about what is important and intersting to them. So keep those letters and

For people who'd like a chat as well, the SE1 OFFICE WILL BE OPEN EVERY THURSDAY FROM 10am TO 3pm, FROM MARCH 1st ONWARDS. Don't keep your opinions to yourself - come and share them!

articles coming in!

And of course, SE1 is always come to our meetings and help hour or two helping to put the

Dates to watch this month:-Meetings:12 and 19 March 7.30pm

neighbours. sit there - come and join in Co-op

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

At the request of local residents Stuart Holland (the new Labour Party Parliamentary Candidate for Vauxhall . including Waterloo) has set up a meeting with the R.A.C.S. Head Office to discuss keeping the supermarket open.

Meanwhile, a petition has been started. If you would like to sign one - or better still. take a copy of the petition and get your neighbours and friends to sign - call in at the Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road. SE1.

If we allow yet another essential shop to close - rememher we have already lost David Grien's and a Sainsbury's - we hall be encouraging even more young families to leave Waterloo Here's living proof, yet again, that we need new family housing in Waterloo (especially on the Coin Street site).



Support Your Local Shop

OPEN UNTIL 8pm Monday - Friday 7pm Saturday 1pm Sunday

- * Fresh milk daily
- * Frozen foods
- * All groceries and provisions
- * Wines, spirits & beers
- * Newspapers
- * Confectionery & tobacco
- * Hot snacks, rolls and

THOS E. DAVIES & CO (TOMS) 137 Southwark Bridge Road, SE1



CUTS CUTS CUTS

Civil servents, claimants and

on strike over their low pay and

poor working conditions on Feb

23rd. Members of the campaion

before the strike to help pub-

licise the reasons for the dis-

There will also be a picket

on March 26th at Alexander Flem-

ing House (Elephant and Castle)

dations of the "Social Assis-

will be handing out leaflets



MORE CUTS IN PUBLIC **SERVICES**

Cuts in Fire Brigade

DOCKHEAD ETREMEN ARE COING TO HAVE A HARD TIME providing adequate cover in case of fire from April 1st thanks to cuts by the London Fire Brigade, Instead of having three fire appliances , they will have only one to cover any fire or incident on Dockhead's fire ground in 1 Bermondsey.

The firemen have written to local people calling for support in their campaign to keep the station going. In the letter they say "The fact of the matter is that you actual front line attendance will be cut by two thirds. We strongly advise you to protest at the highest level onen to you. Because fire means death, injury and damage to property we greatly care about I this.... We cannot stress enough how vitally important this issue

ie. " The biggest danger of the | Fire Brigade's policy is that if two fires happen at the same time Dockhead will only be able would have to be dealt with by enother station much further away. And if they are also involved in a fire on their own | ground?

The address of the Fire Brigade is: London Fire Brigade, severe staff shortages due to 8 Albert Embankment, SE1. • Tel: 735 3811.

THREE MORE EXAMPLES OF CUTS IN VITAL SERVICES ARE FACING SET RESIDENTS THIS MONTH. WILL YOUR FLAT BE LEFT TO BURN DOWN? WILL YOU BE REFUSED FINANCIAL SUPPORT IN A TIME OF CRISIS? WILL YOUR VIEWS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD BE TGNORED?.

NSCDG Grant

TIME IS RUNNING OUT FOR THE NORTH SOUTHWARK COMMUNITY DEV-ELOPMENT GROUP with their grant due to expire on March 31st. Southwark Council have so far refused to extend their orant because the NSCDG has in the cil policy. The Southwark Council for

Cuts in

Voluntary Service has asked for a deputation to be heard by the Policy and Resources Committee but this has been refused. So has a deputation to the full Council meeting on February 28th. The Council says that the NSCDG is "not on the agenda" and therefore a deputation cannot be received.

There is a real danger that time will run out without any satisfaction of DHSS workers and decision having been taken in which case the current Council policy will prevail - that the grant will not be renewed after March 31st. How can the Council to protest against the recommen- be forced to consider renewing the grant? It seems only by someone putting down a motion to the full Council meeting on Feb supporting this picket. For more 28th so that they have to discuss and vote on the grant in public.

Benefits Cuts in Social Security

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND recruitment policies. This means SOCIAL SECURITY (DHSS) is taking that the meagre benefits and steps now to reduce your rights. services that do exist are avail-past been too critical of Coun-The time will come, if it hasn't able only after long delays or already, when you will need not at all. This has put unnecefinancial support because of un- ssary stress on both DHSS workemployment, illness or old age. ers and claimants alike. The kind of help you need may not be available unless you take workers have come together to steps now to protect your rights. form a campaign to fight these cuts. The civil sevents will be

The Supplementary Benefits ystem isn't working, but instead of improving the situation the DHSS has thought up some ways of making it worse. Their ideas have been published in a report called "Social Assistance". Some examples of the effects of these recommendations to attend one and the other fire would be: fewer grants for basic essentials like fuel and clothing. less money for the short term unemployed, and no money for school-leavers.

To make matters worse, the local offices are suffering from low pay and poor working conditions, as well as inefficient

tance" review. You can take a stand to protect your rights by information contact the Lambeth Law Centre, tel: 733 4245.

claimants.

£ 100,000 SECRET FUND

SOUTHWARK COUNCIL'S SO CALLED "INDUSTRY FUND" which looked like turning into a poor man's merchant bank has, as well as being a "blush" fund for businesses too embarrassed to on to a proper bank, now turned into businessmen who aren't embarra- also be given to telling resissed at being told how good Southwark is as long as they get a good lunch out of it.

At the last Planning and Development Committee on 7th Feb it was agreed to spend upt to £100.000 employing a public relations consultant to "sell" Southwark. This astonishing move has more to do with the fact that the sub-committee demanding the move has two councillors who are consultants than any serious attempt to bring back industry to Southwark. The two counsultants, Councillors Davies and Potter, assured the committee that this was the modern trend in management. The Chairman of the Committee, Ron Watts, went even further with the alarmino idea that councillors were not able to lobby MP's and civil servants in the same way that public relations firms

There have been several moves lately, most recently by Southwark Trades Council, to open up the workings of the Industry Fund. SE1 would have thought that if £100,000 can be spent on telling the world about Southwark "slush" fund. This will be for then a little attention could dents what is oning on with this hitherto secret fund.

Industrial

Improvement

TWO INDUSTRIAL IMPROVEMENT AREAS have been declared by Southwark Council in North Southwark - around Bermondsey S and Union Street. Resources amounting to £1% million have been earmarked by the Council for these 50 acre improvement areas for loans and grants to improve commercial and industrial buildings, buying land and improving the environment.

The power to declare Industrial and Commercial Improvement Area was made available in the Inner Urban Areas Act 1978.

Lambeth Seeks Local Opinions

IN AN ATTEMPT TO INVOLVE THE PUBLIC in how Lambeth Council provides services to the public, Lambeth has started a system of public consultation based on local wards to encourage people to say what they like and dislike. A series of meetings with local groups and public meetings are being held in each ward where you can comment on Lambeth's services or lack of them and raise issues which need dealing with.

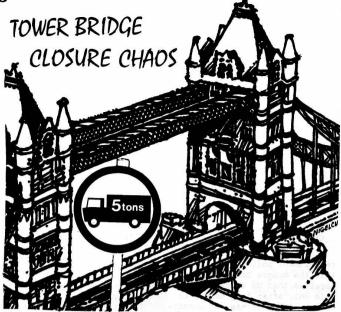
In the local ward, Bishop's Ward, a meeting was held with the Association of Waterloo Groups in January when local councillors and council officials came to hear what local groups had to say. Some of the issues raised included: rubbish on the streets, cleaning of Lower Marsh, Mitre Road open space, bus shelters, the programme of demolition of Campbell Buildings, the future of the allotment site in The Cut, the loss of shops in Waterloo.

Two public meetings for Bishop's Ward are to be held in the Spring and leaflets will be delivered to every household setting out some of the local issues and inviting people to attend the meetings.

This is probably the most ambitious public consultation programme by a local authority to involve people in making sure that it is doing its job. To be really effective though Lambeth will have to not only repeat this exercise regularly but also reorganise the structure of the Council so it can take account of local opinion more effective ely than the present highly centralised structure.

PRINTER WANTED

RYE EXPRESS IS LOOKING FOR A PRINTER (Some experience needed in operating a Litho machine). £70 FOR AN AVERAGE 45-HOUR WEEK. COMMUNITY AND POLITICAL PRINTING ONLY. RYE EXPRESS IS ORGANISED AS A COLLECTIVE. LOCATED IN PECKHAM. PHONE 693 - 4398 FOR DETAILS.



JUGGERNAUTS are streaming through the back streets of the Borough and Bermondsey as they never have before. The reason is the closure of Tower Bridge from January 28th to vehicles of over 5 tons. This restriction is permanent. Lorries heading through SE1 are now using London Bridge or Southwark Bridge taking Lower Thames Street. For residents of Tower Bridge Road there has been some reduction in heavy traffic but other areas are getting alarmed. The GLC decided not to erect signs telling lorry drivers of alternative routes. Consequently, drivers have had to find their own way. The Bridge is structurally weak.

ANTI-RACISTS CHARGED

Warning the public about the nature of the National Front has landed 2 Southwark anti-racists in trouble with the law.

Rod Robertson - Chairperson of Southwark Campaign Against Racialism and Fascism (SCARF) - and Steve Radford - ex-Secretary of SCARF - are being prosecuted for distributing anti-National Front leaflets during last year's Local Government elections, without having charged the cost of the leaflets against the election expenses of any of the candidates in the election.

The charges are being brought under the Representation of the People Act 1949, which limits how much candidates and their agents can spend, and requires them to declare their expenses. The Act was designed to stop people buying their way into of office.

At a general SCARF meeting s shortly after the prosecutions were made known, feelings ran high. One speaker called the prosecutions 'political' - they follow a complaint made to the police by an NF candidate, and the decision to prosecute was made not by the police but by



the Director of Public Prosecutions, who had the discretion not to proceed.

The meeting unanimously decided that it supported the distribution of the leaflets, & stood behind the two members being prosecuted. It was clear that they were not acting in a personal capacity, but as part of the work of the Campaign.

The issue of the prosecutions has also been taken up by the Peckham and Dulwich Labour Parties, which have pledged their support 'financial and otherwise'.

One member of the SCARF Executive Committee told SE1:

"I am shocked that the Director pf Public Prosecutions has used his discretionary powers to prosecute in this case. What consideration of public policy could outweigh the importance of showing the NF for what it is a bunch of thinly disguised Nazis.

"The NF openly provokes racial hatred and violence, both of which are crimes: how then can it be a crime to expose them?"

(See also 'South Bank Poly' article on page 6.)

CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

RESIDENTS FROM NORTH SOUTH-WARK, PECKHAM AND DULWICH have joined a Borough-wide Campaign against Southwark's £70 million Peckham Palace New Town Hall scheme. They are pressing ahead with the campaign in spite of Peter Shore's decision not to call a public inquiry over the issue.

A committee is to be set up to co-ordinate the activities of community groups, tenants associations, trade union bodies and political parties in opposition to the town hall plan. The idea is to bring together representatives from these different areas, into an active group which would plan future developments in the campaign.

Among the tasks facing the new group will be:

- * ensuring that there is a full public enquiry over the compulsory purchase orders which will be needed before the Council is in control of the whole of the proposed site for the new building
- * finding ways of preventing the Council from strengthening its position by demolishing those properties which it already owns on the site
- * putting pressure on Southwark
 MPs to take action over the

* drawing into the campaign all the organisations opposed to the scheme, through leaflets, posters and by sending speakers to address meetings of tenants associations, trade union branches, political groups, etc, to win their active support

* building up the pressure on Labour councillors to reverse the decision to go ahead with the Town Hall plan.

The Peckham Labour Party has already called on individual wards not to re-select, for the next council elections, any of the councillors who ignored the Party's request that there should be more consultation on the plan before a decision was made.

And it will shortly consider two motions calling for the reinstatement of the 11 'rebel' councillors who were thrown out of the Labour Group for opposing the plan.

Meanwhile, the Southwark branch of NUPE, the Council manual workers union, has called on everyone in the borough to write to Reg Underhill, the national organiser of the Labour Party, at Transport House, Smith Square, London SW1, to support the appeal by the 11 'rebels' against their ejection from the Labour Group.

Has there been discussion in your tenants' association, trade union branch or any other group of which you are a member? Make sure that there is. You can get more information about the Campaign from: Eileen Conn, convenir of the Peckham Action Group, at 834 6644 ext 544 or 639 1591 (evenings).

SEI PROBE BAD COMPANY

IF A LOCAL AUTHORITY CAN BE JUDGED BY THE COMPANY IT KEEPS, then all is not well with Southwark. On February 13th the Council's Planning Committee agreed an application from Suntown Developments to build a new 120,000sq. ft. office block on the site of the burned-out New Hibernia Wharf, Montague Close (next to Southwark Cathedral). Approval was given despite the fact that the police are still investigating the cause of the blaze which swept through the old warehouse in late November and have definitely proved arson.

Suntown Developments is a subsidiary company of Bernard Sunley Investment Trust who bought the New Hibernia Wharf from Hays Wharf Ltd in 1977. With the purchase Sunley's also acquired planning permission to rehabilitate the warehouse as offices. The Council insisted on rehabilitation because the warehouse is part of a Conservation Area, but Sunley's

wanted to demolish and rebuild because they said they couldn't get the money for rehabilitating the warehouse.

Before the Council had a chance to consider an application to demolish and rebuild, an arsonist had set fire to the warehouse leaving the Council with no alternative but to agree to demolition. Now wasn't that handy? SE1 understands that, what's more, the New Hibernia Wharf was insured for £1 million. So if the insurers pay up, Sunley stands to gain a cool million from the loss of a building they didn't want anyway.

This, incidentally, is not the first dealing which Southwark Council has had with the Bernard Sunley Investment Trust, who are both developers and contractors of 11 new factories in Sandgate St, Peckham which will be leased back to the Council. In other words the New Hibernia Wharf episode represents not so much a chance acquaintance as a developing relationship.

