

SOUTH BANK TREACHERY

Secret correspondence revealed

ON THE EVE OF THE COIN STREET PUBLIC INQUIRY, 'SE1' HAS COME INTO POSSESSION OF THIS REMARKABLE LETTER BETWEEN RON WATTS, SOUTHWARK'S PLANNING CHAIRMAN AND SHELAGH ROBERTS, PLANNING BOSS OF THE TORY GLC. THE LETTER, SENT SHORTLY AFTER THE TORIES TOOK OVER COUNTY HALL, IS A BLATANT BETRAYAL OF THE PEOPLE OF WATERLOO AND NORTH SOUTHWARK.

It is astonishing that such a letter should have been sent by a supposedly Labour leader to the Tory GLC. But more than that, it is clear evidence of betrayal of local people. Not only is Ron Watts completely accepting in principle the massive hotel and office scheme on Coin Street, he is saying, in effect, Dear GLC we do not mind you building offices and hotels on the South Bank but please don't use up all the potential because we want offices and hotels on Bankside and Hays Wharf i.e. precisely where local people were campaigning in good faith for housing.

A further betrayal is that at the very time this letter was written, Southwark were asking people what type of development they wanted on the South Bank. It is clear that there never was any choice - as far as Ron Watts was concerned.

With the Coin Street Public Inquiry only days away, we now know where Southwark stands. What's more, the next stage of the North Southwark Local Plan public consultation due to start in the summer, is clearly a total fraud.

Mr. Watts' letter says:

Dear Miss Roberts,

You are, or will be, asking for Southwark's comments on the Heron proposal for the Waterloo area. As I understand it this proposition consists of offices plus hotel, plus facilities capable of joint use by the local community.

However, along Bankside there are four sites - King's Reach, East Bankside, Laing's site and Hays Wharf where there is scope for development along these lines. The hotel at King's Reach is in limbo or, more correctly, Carey Street. East Bankside is suitable for office development together with the Globe Theatre project which we strongly support. Laing's have permission for a mainly office development and need an O.D.P. client to make it tick. Hays Wharf is

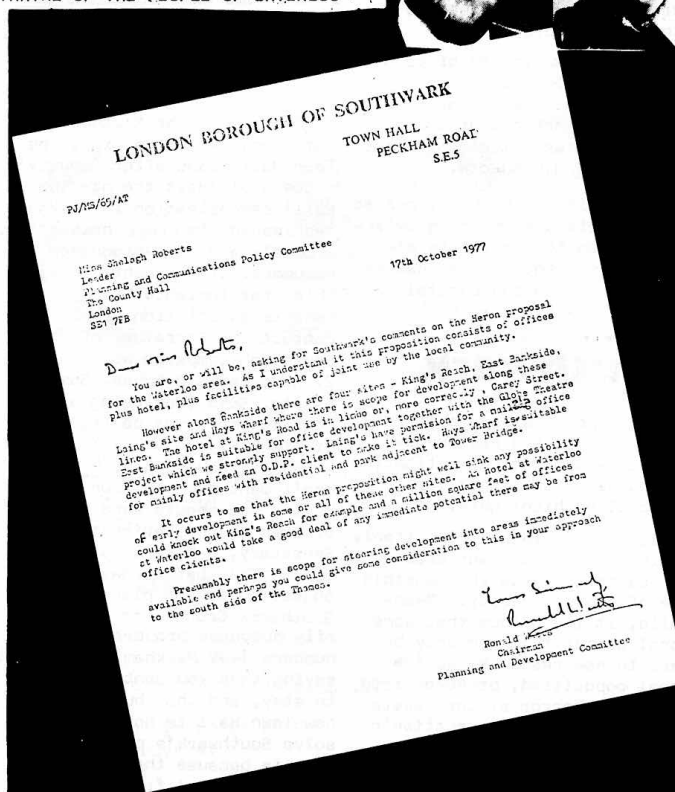
suitable for mainly offices with residential and park adjacent to Tower Bridge.

It occurs to me that the Heron proposition might well sink any possibility of early development in some or all of these other sites. An hotel at Waterloo could knock out King's Reach for example and a million square feet of offices at Waterloo would take a good deal of any immediate potential there may be from office clients.

Presumably there is scope for steering development into areas immediately available and perhaps you could give some consideration to this in your approach to the south side of the Thames.

Yours Sincerely

Ronald Watts
Chairman Planning and Development Committee



what's inside?

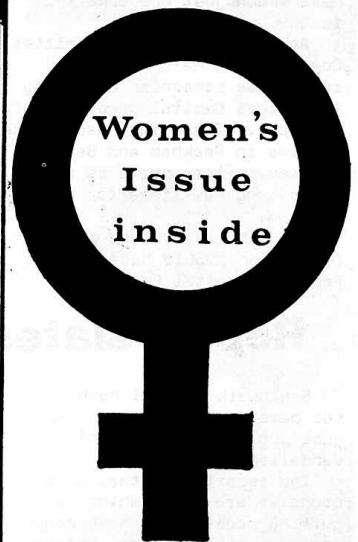
NEW TOWN HALL ...DIRTY TRICKS

FESTIVAL OF EDUCATION IN SE1

CUT CO-OP CLOSES

INTRODUCING: WATERLOO WOODY

plus



RELATIVES AND FRIENDS of Dan Crawley gathered at St. John's churchyard in Tooley Street to plant a tree in memory of Dan, a great fighter for the rights of Bermondsey people, who died at Christmas. He lived in Bethel Estate and always said that Hays Wharf should belong to the people.



Dirty Tricks !

The Committee Boys... ..and the Demolition Squad

Badly needed projects are already being hit by money being set aside for the new Town Hall. This has come to light despite assurances to the contrary when the issue was being debated in the Council.

During that debate, it was revealed that £2 million a year was to be diverted to the 'New Town Hall Fund' from the 'Capital Fund' which is used to finance swimming pools, leisure & community centres, etc.

The Town Clerk claimed at the time that such projects would not be prevented from going ahead as the number of them planned was deliberately kept low to allow for the new Town Hall scheme.

Events in the last two months have shown just how true this is.

At the Libraries & Amenities Committee on March 20th, a report was presented outlining the future Capital programme of projects. These included sports centres in Peckham and Brixton, water sports in Surrey Docks, and new libraries and museums.

The schemes, valued at about £7 million, would have to come from the Capital Fund, now

depleted by £2m a year. But in planning the allocation of Capital Fund money none of them had been allowed for.

THIS INFORMATION WAS NOT AVAILABLE WHEN THE NEW TOWN HALL WAS BEING DEBATED IN COUNCIL.

A second issue which came up at the Libraries & Amenities C'ttee was over £428,000 worth of equipment needed to keep Camberwell Church St. Baths open. Questions were raised as to why this had not been anticipated, and budgeted for.

Not long ago, the Committee decided to spend £700,000 on extending the South London Art Gallery, because Councillors were told that there was no other urgent project.

It looks as if senior council officers are manipulating council committees to get their pet schemes off the ground at the cost of essential works and more pressing projects.

So the impact on badly needed new projects and bringing existing ones up to scratch is already in evidence. The loss of £2m a year from the Capital Fund is a major blow.

NEWS HAS JUST come in of the surprise demolition of two of the buildings on the proposed site for a new Southwark Town Hall. Until a day or so ago, the buildings stood untouched, just behind the 'Bookplace' in Peckham High Street. Now they are a pile of rubble - and no-one seems to have seen them being pulled down.

This is exactly the kind of tactic which has been used in other boroughs, where massive development plans have been pushed forward by the demolition of buildings even before a public inquiry could be held into whether they should be pulled down or not. It looks as if the same kind of tricks are to be tried in Peckham as well.

Southwark Campaign

Meanwhile, the Southwark Campaign, set up to fight the Town Hall plans after January's successful 'Halt the new Town Hall' demonstration in Peckham, has issued its first newsletter. A lively and well-produced document. If you want copies of this (for instance, for your tenants association or club), contact the Secretary of the Southwark Campaign at 27 Huddersfield House, Sumner Estate, SE15 (enclosing a donation to cover postage, printing, etc.).

And if you already know you don't want the new Town Hall built, you should send a letter or card to the Environment Secretary, 2 Marsham Street, London SW1, before May 11th, objecting to the plans by Southwark Council to compulsorily purchase properties at numbers 1-99 Peckham High Street saying that you want the shops to stay, and that building a new Town Hall is not the way to solve Southwark's problems.

This is because the Council has to get approval from the Department of the Environment before it can compulsorily purchase some of the land it needs if the new Town Hall is to be built.

*BUY UP, BRICK UP AND DEMOLISH! - A Shelter Report on Prior Demolition : 35p + 15p P&P from Shelter Publications, 157 Waterloo Road, London SE 1.



12 Meymott Street, SE1.
tel: 928-1643

THIS IS YOUR CHANCE!

ALL SE1's READERS, DISTRIBUTORS, AND CONTRIBUTORS, and indeed anyone interested in the paper and in the future of the SE1 area, are invited to the

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

of the SE1 Community Newspaper Group.

The meeting will be held at

Colombo Street Community Centre

on Wed. 30th May

at 7.30pm.

We hope people will bring their comments and criticisms of the paper, and particularly ideas for improving the paper and its distribution.

A report on the paper by Kate Butcher, the student who has been working with the newspaper since January, will be discussed at the meeting. Copies of this will be circulated in advance to those who would be interested.

EVERYONE WELCOME!!!

The regular meetings for the June issue of the paper will be on Monday May 7 and Monday May 14th, at 4.30pm, and the paste up will be on Saturday & Sunday, May 19th and 20th, from 11.00am onwards at 12 Meymott Street, SE1.

NSCDG CENTRE LIVES ON

AFTER THE SHOCK of the refusal by Southwark Council to renew the urban aid grant to the North Southwark Community Planning Centre in Great Guildford Street, appeals are being made to trusts, charities and trade unions.

Several individual residents and trade union branches have generously given money. And one foundation has given enough to pay the rent on the office for a year. No funds, however, have yet been found to pay for the staff to keep the office open.

So the main priority now, for the North Southwark Community Development Group (NSCDG) is the search for funds for staff.

The office is being kept open a few hours a day by volunteers meanwhile. More volunteers are needed, and the NSCDG would WELCOME HELP FROM ANYONE, EVEN IF IT'S ONLY FOR A FEW HOURS A WEEK.

The previous two full-time workers, Bob Colenutt and George Nicholson, who were made redundant when Southwark Council cut off the funds, are on the dole - but continuing to work for the NSCDG in a voluntary capacity.

MAY '79

SE1 WOMEN

NO.1

SE1 WOMEN ARE HERE ! making our own contribution to SE1 Newspaper with this first special issue. Written and produced entirely by women in SE1, it is, we hope, the start of something new, relevant and exciting for SE1 readers, many of whom must have wondered occasionally why the experience and views of women in the area were not more frequently expressed on the pages of SE1.



Many of the things that go on in SE1 - which are reported in the newspaper - are of direct and particular concern to women for example, the closure of shops and schools in the area, the fight for new and better housing, the closure or lack of facilities such as nurseries and family planning clinics. These things matter a great deal to women, because they affect women first and to a greater extent than they affect men.



As the people who do the shopping, the housework, the child care and often doing paid work as well, it's the women whose lives are made harder by the general lack of facilities, who have to struggle away to get council repairs done in their homes, who have to cope with children suffering the lack of proper play provision and so on.



Women think a lot about these things by themselves, they talk about them with the other women they know... all too often nothing much gets changed and what does change doesn't change quickly enough. We think it's important for women to share their experiences, ideas, battles failures and successes as widely as possible. Putting together an issue of SE1 seemed like one way that women could start sharing these things.



We hope that this Women's Issue of SE1 will help to build and reinforce links between women. And we hope that you will get in touch with us directly:-

1. to let us know what you think about this issue and if you'd like to see more like it.
2. if you'd like to join us in putting together further issues - no experience needed - we're all learning about it - talking, writing, photographing, interviewing, typing - it's been fun.
3. if there's something going on that you'd like to write about or have written about.



Contact SE1 WOMEN at 12, Meymott St, SE1. 928-1643.

Report slates Southwark

Southwark Council comes in for harsh criticism in a report just published on 'official vandalism'.*

The report says that local councils are demolishing or gutting houses they have compulsorily purchased years before redevelopment of the area can go ahead.

The Braganza Street area in Newington and Moncrieff Street in Peckham are two prime examples of the waste of good houses and break up of communities which result.

One Moncrieff Street resident describes her reaction to the sight of council workers gutting a house: "The first house they rucked out. I can't tell you what I felt - I felt sick, sick, sick to my stomach."

The report calls for legislation to curb the destructive practices that its investigation of Southwark and other local authorities highlights.

But it concludes: "Inevitably legislation is a blunt weapon and cannot enforce the sensible use of empty property. Meanwhile, it is obvious that some local authorities can only be made to see reason by active local opposition, provoked into action by horror at the waste of resources and destruction of living communities."

*BUY UP, BRICK UP AND DEMOLISH! - A Shelter Report on Prior Demolition : 35p + 15p P&P from Shelter Publications, 157 Waterloo Road, London SE 1.

SOUTHWARK CAMPAIGN BENEFIT



5th May 8p.m.-midnight

Colombo St. Hall

[Off Blackfriars Road]

Tickets £1.50 food included FROM:

27 Huddersfield House, Sumner Estate, S. E. 15 Tel. 693 8752

HOUSING

Co-op Scramble

Haddonhall Estate is a new GLC development still being completed, and is situated off Tower Bridge Road. A letter explained that this estate was to eventually be run as a GLC co-operative and said that letting was subject to the acceptance of the co-operative.

24 maisonettes were all being let at once and this caused difficulties as there were a large number of prospective tenants and only a small number of GLC representatives. Small groups were pushed into the kitchen of one of the maisonettes, to speak to the woman who supposedly knew how the co-operative was to work.

In fact she didn't say much except that it would probably be 18 months or two years before the co-op got off the ground. She explained that there would be meetings that everyone would have to attend, and that eventually a committee would be set up by the tenants. This committee would decide exactly how much control they would take over from the GLC, and whether rents would continue to be paid to the GLC, or whether the co-operative would take on this responsibility.

She said that this would

mean that repairs could be done by the "chap around the corner". She assured us that repairs would be done more quickly and cheaply this way. When she asked if there were any questions, nobody said anything as they were only interested in getting the keys to view! As people were coming from slum clearance and bad housing conditions, it seemed that they were even people waiting to see if there were any refusals. The whole procedure was very chaotic and nothing was explained clearly.

At a subsequent meeting on April 12th, things were explained more fully.

The estate is worth £1m, and the GLC will give £35,000 towards the running of the estate with any surplus to be used for other amenities. The GLC will advise on the running of the co-op but both sides must show willing. They want this co-op to start operating more quickly than the Wellington Mills one, as this co-op



got off to a very slow start. This has led to very low morale and there is still no legal agreement after 3 years. For the time being, any work that is undertaken by the tenants will be done on a voluntary basis, but after a legal agreement has been drawn up and signed, tenants will be paid for their work.

So far, 75% of the estate has been let to pensioners, and some people at the meeting said that pensioners would reap all the benefits while the work is done by others. In fact it is usually the pensioners who take most pride in their homes.

On the fact of it, this is a good idea. It will at least do something towards curbing vandalism if tenants take a pride in their homes, and the community spirit might come back to South London as neighbours will at least get to know each other.

Eventually the co-op will even have a say in who lives on the estate but this could lead to a difficult situation where the people on the estate want too much power.

All in all it doesn't look as rosy as it was explained. Only time will tell.



A WOMAN'S - EYE VIEW...

Having recently moved into a flat in Stamford Street I am now much more aware of the problems concerning the Coin Street development plan. As the mother of two young girls I was glad to accept the flat I now occupy, having had no bathing facilities and very little space in my previous flat in Campbell Buildings. I was also pleased to get a flat in the area of my choice, knowing how bad the housing situation is in the Waterloo area, although I would have preferred a low rise dwelling with a garden.

When I learned that the land opposite me, namely Coin Street, might very well be used for offices and even a hotel I was horrified. Why does anybody who has any knowledge of this area think for one moment that we need anything other than housing?

When I left Campbell Buildings I left many friends who

desperately needed to be rehoused; people who have three or more children in one bedroom; people without baths; people who have to live in dark depressing conditions, many of whom have been waiting years for a decent place to live.

Most of these people wish to remain in the Waterloo area either because their children go to school here or because their place of work is nearby or simply that they like the area and don't want to be moved elsewhere. But because of the lack of housing they are being forced out of the area and put into places that are alien to them.

So when I look out of my window and see this huge area of land which may, if some people get their way, be used for offices I think "what a waste, when there are so many people in the area who cannot be rehoused because of the shortage of housing."



"I also think how depressing it will be for me and many of my neighbours if they build tall office blocks as at the moment I have got quite a nice view from my top floor flat. Who wants to look out of their windows and see nothing but a huge concrete block - certainly not me. On the other hand if they were to build low rise housing and a park, which many local people are fighting for, then it would be a pleasure to look out of the window. My children would have somewhere near to play, instead of having to walk across busy roads to one of the two parks in the area. With all the new technology coming along we might find that we don't need office blocks anyway. I hope for the sake of everyone in the area that Coin Street is used for the housing we so badly need.

Maureen Birch



Simple steps to Childminding

Just in case some people are under the misapprehension that registering as a childminder entails yards of red tape, the following information shows that it is quite a simple procedure:-

1 - Get in touch with your local Social Services Department (either by letter or telephone), who will make an appointment to visit you.

2 - A representative from the Social Services will visit you and note a few personal details (name, address, telephone number etc.). Your flat will be checked for number of rooms, which naturally determines the number of children you can accommodate. Your flat will also be checked with regard to safety, i.e. fireguards, stair gates etc.



Rita-local childminder

3 - You will receive a letter of acceptance, together with Certificate of Registration.

The whole procedure usually takes approximately up to six weeks, sometimes less. Once registered, your name is placed on a list which the Social Services issue to those requiring a minder. You may also advertise independently (shop windows etc.). You may also stipulate what age group you require.

Why be Registered?

Practical help:

- the Social Services will loan you safety equipment, i.e. fireguards, stair gates etc., also toys and even double buggies if you have two children under 5 years. The extent of this help, however, does vary in different boroughs.
- you can claim an allowance for $\frac{1}{2}$ pint of milk a day per child being minded.

Advisory help:

- the Social Services will issue you with advisory leaflets about general child care, together with details of places to take under-fives (10'clock clubs, Mother & Toddler groups etc.).
- you will be given a list of local libraries and it is interesting to note here that a childminder can borrow up to 10-15 books, without being a member, she just tells the librarian that she is a minder.
- you will also be given details of a Public Liability Insurance, which you may choose to take out to cover yourself should any injury occur to the child whilst in your care.
- a representative of the Social Services will visit you at fairly regular intervals, approximately every six months, at which time you can discuss any problems or queries you may have. You may, of course, get in touch before this time if you have any problems.

Why a Childminder?

- the child is being cared for within a 'family unit'.
- more individual attention can be paid to the child.
- the child has only one person to get to know, unlike a nursery which has more than one 'teacher'.
- the mother can more easily discuss her child's care and development.
- the hours are more flexible.

I hope the above information will show that it is not difficult to become a registered childminder and that the time taken to register is well worth it in terms of the practical help and advice which the Social Services Department gives.



SOUTHWARK CHILD CARE CAMPAIGN
BOOKLET "WHO CARES FOR SOUTHWARK CHILDREN"

is now available FREE to local women.

It contains all sorts of information on child care in the Borough.

Contact: Nicky Road
c/o Portacabin
St. Albans Hall
Manor Place
SE 17



women in the middle years

Barbara Choudhury writes---

I AM A 45 YEAR OLD WOMAN who thought she was going through the menopause stage but whose doctor, family and friends all said I was too young.

Then early in December 1978 I saw a poster advertising a women's group who were going to discuss this problem. I saw by the date that I had missed this meeting, but I enquired and found that they were going to have another meeting, as the first one had been so successful.

I have benefited so much from the meetings (I have been to 3 now) and I found other women with similar problems to mine. I don't have the hot flushes but I get red blotches come up on my skin. I am irritable and cry for nothing and get depressed. I sleep badly and get terrible headaches.

My doctor wanted me to take Valium, but I said I didn't want to become dependent on drugs.

So at the meeting we began to ask questions that worried us and then someone else would try to answer them. These were some of the questions and answers:

Q. How do you know when you reach the menopause?
A. The first signs could be hot flushes, but the definite sign is the ending of the periods. This can also be confusing as in some women the periods become shorter and the flow heavier, or sometimes whole months are missed!

Q. What time can a woman expect to start her menopause?
A. Between 48 and 52 years old, but some could only be 35 and others as old as 56 years.

Q. Is there anything else other than tranquillisers that I can take?
A. There are several preparations. Herbal preparations can sometimes help. HRT (Hormonal Replacement Therapy) is a hormone preparation which is synthetically produced. We will go into more detail about this in another issue, and also about another preparation called L-Tryptophan.

If any readers know of any other preparation, or want any more information about the change, I shall be pleased to help if I can. tel. 261-1404



Women's Memories

EMMA WARBURTON 79 years old
EMMA BEASLEY 75 years old

"Don't put too much toffee in about us.....we're ordinary like everyone else."

The 'two Emm's' are close friends and have been for years. After all, they have a lot in common, like most women do and they're no exception.

"We've had lots of different jobs, women didn't used to have careers like they do now. There was no equal pay then. We've done all sorts of things, all traditional women's jobs, like canteen work, cleaning in offices, that sort of thing."

Emm Warburton told me the only time women did different sorts of jobs, well men's jobs, was during the war....

"I was 14 on the day the first world war started. I remember it clearly and I went to work at Bakside Gas Station as a stoker. It was hard graft there and as a woman you had to prove yourself. The bosses wouldn't accept from a woman what they would from a man. It was dangerous too. I remember one woman, a stoker, getting burnt there when a retort full of burning coke fell on her. It wasn't easy, although the pay was considered good, £2.00 for a 52 hour week and you worked on Sundays."

To All SE1 Women

Are you frightened of the Elephant underpass?

Have you ever been attacked? flashed at?

or do you just feel strongly about them?

What do you think about Southwark's architecture? How can we make planners remember women when they build these things?

If you are interested in discussing this or have had a bad experience, please contact: TRISHA c/o S.E.1

women with kids...

THE PICKWICK YOUNG MUMS' CLUB is starting soon at the Pickwick Community and Youth Work Centre on a Monday afternoon from 1.30 - 3.30pm.

The opening session will be on 14th May at 1.30pm. Come along and see what events and activities are available!

The Pickwick Centre is on the corner of Pocock Street and Rushworth Street.

Refreshments and creche facilities are available so bring the kids and enjoy a cup of tea.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

Barbara and Sue Blackfriars Settlement

Waterloo Women's Group - how about joining us??

We are a group of women who have been meeting once a week for some time now in Waterloo. Children are welcome, as we have ample play facilities.

As well as giving us the opportunity of chatting with other women, we also undertake various activities, such as:-

- films
- cookery
- visits by outside speakers, e.g. Doctors, Health Visitors
- discussions
- outings

Details of a few past meetings are as follows:-

- 1) a film of self-examination for breast cancer.
- 2) a visit by a local G.P., who discussed with us various forms of contraception and children's illnesses.
- 3) a visit by members of a women's refuge, who showed us a video film they had made about themselves.
- 4) discussions about over-prescription of drugs by G.P.'s.

These are just a few examples of the topics we have covered; the rest are too numerous to mention.

At the moment we are in the process of making a video film which is quite exciting, as none of us has ever used such equipment before.



???Advice Column?Advice Column???

"I haven't received the kind of treatment that I think I should have received from my Doctor; how can I register a complaint?"

"I'm worried that my mother has a drinking problem. Is there anything I can do to help her?"

"I have just got sacked from my job because I couldn't change from part-time to full-time. Do I have any right to redundancy pay?"

"My husband doesn't understand that I need to go out on my own or with my mates once in a while. How can I explain this to him?"

"My teen-age daughter has asked me if she can go on the pill. What shall I tell her?"

Have you ever had questions like these that you wanted to ask but didn't know who to ask? The S.E.1 Women's Issues will have an advice column as a regular feature.

Your questions can be signed or unsigned and will be treated in complete confidence.

If you have something on your mind, this is your chance! Send your questions to: S.E.1 Women's Issue 12 Meymott Street S.E.1

The group meets at No. 4, Santley House, Frazier Street (opposite Barley Mow Clinic) every Thursday afternoon at 1.30 p.m. Don't be shy to come along, we are a very friendly crowd and would really welcome new members.

We are trying to find out if local people would be interested in a Community - cum-Health Centre in the area.

Some of the positive things we have been able to achieve are:-

- we have started a keep-fit group, which meets every week in Morley College.
- we have managed to get play equipment for the local estate by approaching the G.L.C.
- we have put in an application to the Lambeth Inner City Partnership for money for a Mother & Toddler 'drop-in'. We are awaiting the outcome of this.

If you find you have Thursday afternoons free and feel like a change of scene, please contact either JANE MILLER at Waterloo Action Centre, or telephone RITA on 928 2756.

National Trouble



PICKETS ON DUTY AT THE NATIONAL THEATRE, WHERE THE MANAGEMENT RECENTLY ESCALATED THE DISPUTE BY LOCKING OUT WORKERS.

MAY DAY IN SE1

May Day: the day when working people all over the world organise activities to show their support for each other's struggles for socialism.

As in previous years Southwark Trades Council is organizing a local demonstration which will be supported by organizations from many parts of South London.

It will then march to the Embankment to join up with the all-London march to Hyde Park.

The South London march assembles at noon at the London College of Printing, Elephant & Castle. It moves off at 12.30 p.m. via Waterloo Road and Waterloo Bridge to the Embankment.

Celebrate May Day

with 'OXEYES'

rock band

and DISCO

BAR and FOOD available

TUESDAY MAY 1st. 8.00 - 12.00pm at SOUTH BANK POLY STUDENTS UNION ROTARY STREET, SE1 (by St. George's Circus).

Organised by Peckham Communist Party.

Southwark Child Care Campaign

JOB AD.

We are setting up an exciting, new project in the Surrey Docks area to investigate child care provision in the area for children of all ages with working parents and work towards extending and improving present facilities. Surrey Docks is a Development Area which will be facing many changes and a growth in population over the next few years, presenting a great challenge for those living and working there.

We are looking for a CO-ORDINATOR of the project who is:

- * committed to seeing the establishment of facilities for children with working parents
- * experienced in this field, preferably with community work skills.

Salary: AP4 £4,680 - £5,067 incl. London Weighting

Closing date: 25th May

Details and application forms: Nicky Road, Portakabin Offices, St.Alban's Hall, Penton Place, SE17. Tel.: 701 1038/9.

FESTIVAL of EDUCATION

EXAMPLES OF THE VARIETY of 'education' in a community such as ours will be brought together in a 2-day 'Festival of Education' on the Carnival of Education soon at the Colombo Street Community Centre and the Christchurch John Marshall Hall on May 19/20.

The 'Carnival' is being organised by the South London Industrial Mission, who told SE1 that the aim is to communicate the idea that 'Education is for whole communities, and contribution is made by all ages in a rich variety of ways.'

The organisers are urging all local organisations, clubs, associations, etc. to 'contribute a glimpse of your own educational activity and interest. (SE1 will be putting on a display showing how the newspaper is made) and they hope that the 2-day event will enable a large number of people of all ages to

Have fun
Express views about community education
Critique available resources
Display their own educational efforts
Dump their worries - and see them taken up
Help at the birth of a permanent Community Education Council.
Journey through the 7 Ages of Man (man?)
See available educational activities.

The idea that 'education' is something that's done to you between the ages of 5 and 16 or maybe a few years longer is being challenged more and more nowadays, by people who are saying that 'education' is not just a 'teacher' up front, and rows of people being 'taught'.

If you look at the idea from this angle, it helps to remind you that everyone has different skills - which they can pass on to each other - and that people have different experience - and can give each other the benefit of this experience.

Anyone who has been involved in, say, organising a 'jumble' sale, or helping out with their tenants' association, will know that this is true - how some people already know how to do some of the things that are necessary, and others learn from them by doing it together.

The things we learn best are the things we learn, not by just being told how they are done, but by doing them ourselves. Some things are most conveniently learnt in a fairly ordered situation, with an 'expert' or 'experts' passing on information and skills, while others are best learnt by people coming together and sharing what they already know in order to get something done which they all agree needs doing, or is just fun to do.

So if you're involved in any activity which others might be interested in, and which might be displayed in the Education Carnival, contact Peter Challen at SLIM, 27 Blackfriars Road; tel. 928 4707.

LAMBETH PEOPLE'S FESTIVAL

Saturday 19th May.
St. Matthew's Meeting Place, Brixton Hill, SW2 (opposite the Town Hall)

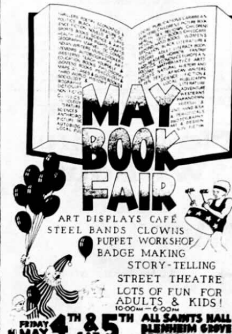
DAYTIME: Stalls, exhibitions, refreshments, books, crafts, clowns, entertainments, music

Plus: 11.30am Workshop on 'Law and Order'
2.00pm Discussion on the Politics of Health
4.00pm Discussion on Community Politics

EVENING: LEON ROSSELSON, singer 8.00pm

Plus: video film show, disco till late. Real ale bar opens at 6.00pm.

Entrance: Daytime 50p
Evening £1.00



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Ring Michael Pearce or David Evans on 701 8559 and ask for further details.

CO-OP CLOSED

The Co-op Supermarket in the Cut closed on April 21st despite protests from local groups and a delegation organized by parliamentary candidate Stuart Holland. The Co-op is the latest victim of the failure to replace lost homes and build up the local population. The Sainsbury supermarket closed in 1972. The David Greig Supermarket in Waterloo closed in 1974.

When the local delegation told the RACS managing director that the Cut Supermarket could be profitable if it were run more efficiently, they were told that the real problem was lack of local population. If the residential proposals for Coin St. were given the go-ahead, RACS might well be interested in opening up a larger supermarket in the development proposed by the Association of Waterloo Groups.

When the delegation pointed

out that even the Coin Street Office proposals would increase local trade, the RACS boss told them that office workers were of very little use in supporting Supermarkets.



Coin Street cold feet

TWO RECENT DEVELOPMENTS in the Coin Street saga suggest that the GLC and its office-developing friends are getting cold feet about the South Bank Public Inquiry, due to begin on May 22nd.

The first sign was an attempt by the GLC and Commercial Properties Ltd. to withdraw the architect's drawings of their proposed office development. These drawings show clearly how vast and ugly this development would be. (For instance, their 'riverside walk' is covered and would be perpetually in shadow). Because of a technical rule, they have not been able to withdraw these drawings.

The second sign followed the Heron Corporation's new application to raise the height of its proposed hotel, so that it

would be 100 feet higher than the top of the 350-foot Shell building tower! Although the Tory GLC has given its backing to the higher hotel, it is clearly frightened that Heron have pushed their luck too far. A few days after Tory backbenchers expressed doubts about the scheme, a new property company, Greycoat London Estate Estates, was approached and asked to produce a scaled-down scheme. Greycoat's architects were given 24 hours to produce and submit the new plans. Their scheme consists of a smaller hotel above industrial/warehouse units, a 300,000 square foot office complex, and 150 residential units. The offices, apparently, would be occupied by Phillips Petroleum Company, a multinational oil company.

W.H. Wilcox Ltd. No Smoke Without Fire

THE MANAGING DIRECTOR of W.H. Wilcox phoned SE1 recently to complain about the article in last month's issue of the paper, which said over a hundred jobs were at risk as a result of the firm getting planning permission to convert their warehouse in Southwark Street into offices. SE1 was told that many employees were alarmed at the article.

And so they should be. SE1's story was corroborated last week by an item discovered in a confidential Southwark Council agenda saying that Wilcox's were seeking to move 'as soon as possible' to Earle Road off the Old Kent Road. Employees, many of the local people, have still not been consulted about the implications of this move. Unfortunately there is no trade union branch in the firm to represent the workers' interests.

PROTEST SUCCESS

THOSE WHO SCOFF at demonstrations as a method of showing how people feel about an issue should note one such protest which has had its impact.

Last autumn, plans were announced for a helicopter landing point to be established on barges in the river off Trig Lane, just across the river from Bankside. The 'helistop' would have brought constant traffic carrying business executives to the offices of the City and (more shame) the riverside.

When a 'demonstration' was arranged to show what a good idea the scheme was, the organisers were met with an unexpected demonstration of a different kind, mounted by community organisations and others from North Southwark and Waterloo (see flashback), objecting to the proposed flood of heli-noise.

The Corporation of London has now voted the plans down, on the grounds that the 'helistop' would be too noisy.

However, it is worth noting that the final decision rests with the GLC - and we all know on whose side the GLC is; and also, that the Corporation of London is meanwhile looking for 'an alternative site opposite the City'. That sounds like they've their eyes on the SE1 riverside. Remember the barge by King's Reach? So keep your eyes and ears open when you're down by the river, and let us know at SE1 if you see anything that might suggest preparations for heli-invasion.



WATERLOO WOODY

Who's that lonely figure hovering in our skies, zooming in on the haughty tall timbers of bureaucracy and big business?

IT'S WATERLOO WOODY! Yes folks, the legendary ace reporter's services have been acquired for by SE1 for an undisclosed fee.

'My first assignment was Colombo Street Centre 2.30 April 12th, a so-called "pre-Inquiry meeting re. Coin St." - whatever that meant. The first thing that hit me, before I got my dark glasses in place, was a wall of pin-stripe suits, cut-away collars (remember them?), and hair partings that looked like they had been locked in place with Araldite. They were just the lawyers, I learned. The planners standing in rows behind them were a give-away - sports jackets, a beard or two and woollen ties.

The next thing I noticed from my position high in the rafters in the press seats, was that down below it looked like the United Nations. You know the way they have delegations from different countries lined up behind name cards. There were teams from Heron Corp. (they could be related to me, I'll have to check that), Commercial Properties (no doubts about the their aims), the Greater London Council, Southwark & Lambeth. Last was the Association of Waterloo Groups.

The pinstripe that got to me was a certain John Drinkwater QC (currently in Rhodesia, so my spies tell me, with Thatcher's Tory delegation, overseeing the 'elections' there.) Anyhow, Drinkwater distinguished himself by being unable to stop talking. My calculations showed that he got up to speak ten times, compared with an average of 3 for all the other participants.

The meeting was about procedure - who is going on first at the big inquiry on May 22nd. There were complaints about the sound in Colombo Street - which from where I was, wasn't too good. On the other hand, I gather I didn't miss much.'

W.W.



BANKSIDE: ROAD CLOSED

RESIDENTS ON BANKSIDE have lost the battle to prevent the closure of the Bankside road between Hopton Street and the Provosts Lodgings. Plans for a concrete 'Observation deck' will now go ahead in spite of the road closure inquiry last year. Local residents argued that the road was part of the history of the area and should be linked to a grass park along the river. The Department of Transport has now given Southwark Council

permission to close the road and build a concrete platform 'decorated' with shrubs and 'reinforced grass'.

A spokesman for the North Southwark Community Development Group told SE1 'This disgraceful decision shows that Government and local councils intend to destroy the South Bank with concrete. They are completely out of touch with people's wish for an environment on a human scale'.

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