



RELIEF RD. RILES ROTHERHITHE RESIDENTS

A major public campaign is gathering momentum to fight the GLC's proposed Southern Relief Route, which would cut a swathe of destruction through Rotherhithe and Bermondsey.

About 50 people turned up at the last Rotherhithe Forum, bringing petitions which have started circulating around local estates.

Joint action with residents from other affected parts of the Borough is planned, and comes up for discussion at Bermondsey Forum on the 11th September and at North Southwark Community Development Group on the 12th September.

All this leads up to a key public meeting on the 25th September at the Assembly Rooms, Rotherhithe Baths at 7.30pm.

The proposed motorway has brought together in opposition a curious alliance, including the Council, whose Leader, John O'Grady has dubbed it 'Dynamite Way' and both Bermondsey and Southwark Trades Councils.

In its latest newsletter the Southwark Trades Council says; "The disastrous £140 - million scheme would put between 600 and 1000 Southwark jobs at risk ... scythe down about 400 homes, chop about 2½ acres of Southwark park, and demolish two schools and a Community Centre in the borough".



8a.m. Saturday July 28th outside the Oval...what's going on???? There's a clue on the back of the T-Shirt. The full story on p6.

ABORTION RIGHTS DEFENDED

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Corrie Threat

Women (and men!) will be glad to know that a Southwark campaign has been set up to defend our rights of access to abortion. These rights are under serious threat from a Bill currently before Parliament, proposed by a certain MR John Corrie. CORRIE'S BILL WILL CHANGE THE ABORTION LAWS.

The bill will result in:

1. Restricting the grounds for abortion.
2. Reducing the upper time limit to 20 weeks.
3. Smashing the abortion charities.

For more detailed information about the Bill and details of the National Campaign and the TUC-called Demonstration on October 28th - see page 6.

Southwark's Campaign

In Southwark we've got off to a flying start, with over 80 people at an Open Meeting. Most of them, plus some more, are active already with street leafletting round shopping centres, collecting signatures on a petition, and planning other activities, including on a petition.

Other activities are being planned including work on housing estates, raising money and speaking at meetings.

Contacts

If you want to know more about the Campaign or the Bill or if you can help in any way please phone us:

Carol 701 9328 (work)
703 5048 (home)
Ann 237 1715 (work)
732 2633 (home)

NO CORRIE BILL
NO RESTRICTION ON ABORTION RIGHTS
NO CORRIE BILL

FIGHTING THE CUTS

RIGHT: a group of building workers listen to one of the speakers at a large picket of County Hall on July 24th. Tenants and building workers joined forces with GLC architects and others (including the Coin Street Action Group) as part of a growing campaign against Tory GLC policies aimed at selling off GLC housing, closing down the directly employed labour department, cutting off the grant to the London Tenants Organisation, and encouraging office development instead of badly needed housing.



WANTED: Lollipopers

SCHOOL CROSSING ATTENDANTS are wanted to patrol busy streets in the Borough area.

The appointment of the lollipop people is a success story for parents of kids from St. Saviour's and St. Joseph's primary schools. Last March they presented the Council with a petition of several hundred names after 2 accidents involving kids on their way to school. (See the photo in SE 1, April '79.)

Local police took note and are now looking for people to fill the 4 posts available.



If you're interested, CONTACT: Sgt. Stokes, Southwark Police Station on 407 8044.

It's part-time work paid by the hour. The jobs would suit retired people wanting a bit of extra cash. It helps if you like kids.

thingimijig

was the name of this year's Charterhouse Street Theatre group, and for the first three weeks of the summer holidays the sound of their songs and chants echoed around the streets of Bermondsey.

The first week's play 'starring' Superweatherman, found everyone chanting 'You never know with weather 'cos it changes all the time', and we certainly didn't. Though Superweatherman told us to 'keep your eyes peeled to the sky, now you'll believe a man can fly...', we were really looking for rainclouds and wondering if the rain would hold off!



The afternoons were filled with games, and arts and crafts, and the kids made things connected to the morning's play. Here again we were

fighting the wind, as paintings and other objets d'art blew away, and a few times we were all sent scurrying back to the Ark in Crosby Row.

On Wednesdays Thingimijig joined up with the LAW STREET BUMPERS, the other Charterhouse playscheme on the Tabard Estate, who had been having a lot of fun, with much enthusiastic help from teenagers and mums. They had arranged swimming trips, games, outings to Greenwich, Canvey Island and other exciting places.

The subject of the second Thingimijig play was 'The princess who wouldn't smile' and all the kids enjoyed the antics of Terry Harris, brother to Rolf?, really a dentist in disguise! He decided she couldn't smile as she didn't have any teeth, and wielding a large syringe and various saws, amid much groaning and screaming he fixed on a cardboard grin.

In the final week we were taken into DR. FRANKENFURTER'S laboratory and were kept in suspense as to exactly what was in the coffin. The two cleaners of the laboratory kept trying to peep, but were foiled every time by Riffraff, the doctor's evil assistant. When the monster finally emerged, many of the kids were frightened!

Many thanks must go to the students who made up Thingimijig and to all the other helpers who were involved for the three weeks.



"It's child's play" doesn't seem to be the story on the faces of these two 'contented mums' who were brave enough to act as helpers on the Charterhouse scheme.



Year of the Child Day at Burgess Park



Colombo Street Sports and Community Centre

tel: 261 1658

Colombo Street has now taken on responsibility for bookings for the Hatfields open space, so those wishing to use the pitch there should contact Bob or Jim at the number above

JUMBLE WANTED: we're having a jumble sale in November, so we're looking for any jumble you can spare. We'll collect if you can't bring it round yourself, so let Bob or Jim know if you can offer anything.



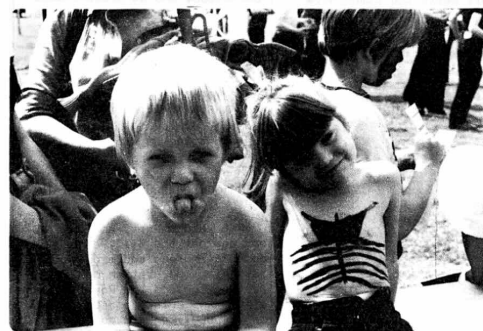
Reading the South London Press, residents of SE1 would not have gathered much about the Day Festival in Burgess Park on August 4th to mark the 'Year of the Child'. A picture of the 'Tribute to Elvis' stall was all they could muster.

However there were many local groups taking part including Mint Street Adventure Playground and Rockingham Play Association from SE1. In fact a large group of different play and other children's organisations had organised events for the day, helped by

a £400 grant from Southwark Council.

The range of events from mural painting organised by Mint Street to throwing huge liquorice Allsorts at gaping mouths run by the Southwark Child Care Campaign was free although the legendary fundraising of Rockingham Play Association did come to the surface selling a few cakes.

The day proved a great success and will hopefully lead to more joint ventures long after the year of the child has been forgotten.



YOUR RIGHTS

SCHOOL MEALS

The I.L.E.A. have just announced that from the beginning of the Autumn term, more parents will be able to claim free school meals.

Entitlement to free meals depends on the number of children in the family and the parents' net income - i.e. take-home pay, child benefit and any other income less rent or mortgage, rates, fares to work, and certain other outgoings.

This increase in the scales will coincide with an increase in the price of school meals to 30p. There will be another increase as usual in November. Best advice is: if in doubt, claim.

AND SCHOOL UNIFORMS ...

Parents buying uniforms during the holidays for their children's return to school in September should pop into the Lambeth Walk Consumer Advice Centre. Throughout August the centre will have a display on school uniforms and how to get the best value for money when you buy.

COUNCIL WORKER VICTIMISED

NALGO are taking Southwark Council to the Industrial Tribunal in one of the many disputes arising out of the Social Work strike.

The dispute concerns Neil Williams who is taking a course to qualify as a social worker, having worked up till now unqualified. Normal practice would be for Southwark to pay for the course; but in this case they have refused.

The reason given is that Neil has been employed by Southwark for 2 days less than two years.

Says Tony Goss, assistant Social Services convenor: "When we met the Councillors, we produced mounds of evidence that there was no such thing as a 2-year rule. They just said they had confidence that the Director of Social Services knew what he was talking about!"

"Certainly if there is such a rule, it's never been applied before. We suspect that the sole reason for their refusal is Neil's active participation in the Social Work strike."

For those parents who receive school uniform grants from the ILEA, the centre can provide a list of shops which accept the vouchers. Lambeth Consumer Service advisers will also be able to help parents who think they may qualify apply for a grant.

The display will also give information on how to look after clothing, care labelling and consumers rights if anything goes wrong. The display runs until 8th September.

Lambeth Walk Consumer Advice Centre, in Lambeth Walk Shopping Precinct, SE 11. Open Tuesday to Saturday 9.30 am to 4.30 pm.



EVENTS
SUMMER/AUTUMN.

September
Dance Performance
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6.30 onward.

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

SE1 is a community newspaper. This means it is run by local people who live or work in the area. It is non-profit making and no one gets paid (not even the pubs or newsgagents which sell it). The paper provides an alternative to the commercial press for news and views which rarely get an airing.

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

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

MEETINGS Mondays 10th & 17th of September.

LAST DAY for articles to go in the next issue is 17th September

HELP PREPARE THE PAPER It's great fun typing, thinking up headlines and glueing down the stories: the weekend of 22nd and 23rd September, 11am till we finish - stay for as long as you have time.

Peoples History Group

THE SE1 PEOPLE'S HISTORY GROUP meets again after the summer break on **Tuesday September 11th** at 7.30 in North Lambeth Library, Lower Marsh.

The group discusses and records memories of ordinary peoples' lives in the area. Drop in to the library and see our display, or look at the booklets we've printed already (10p each).

Better still, come to the meeting, which will open with a discussion about street life in Lower Marsh in the 30's.

Have bike - will travel

1 (RIGHT) July 28th saw 45 community paper supporters up with the dawn. Riders came from all 3 Southwark papers - SE 1, Walworth in Print & Peckham Pulse. Kennington residents had never seen so many legs in their lives. What could be up? Bicycles & money were the 2 main clues.



3 (RIGHT) By the lunch stop, the riders were getting more confident that they really would make it too ... ash, guess where. Sandwiches and orange juice were enthusiastically gobbled. The weather was good - most riders opted for the shade of a tree for their siesta.



5 (RIGHT) The last stretch. Only one rider had dropped out (with cramp) on the 60 mile journey. Is there somebody still smiling there? - Everyone still had the appearance of having a good time - especially at the tea-stop for home made flap-jacks. SE 1's financial situation was looking up too, as the puffed out treasurer remarked.



2 (LEFT) Yes, a sponsored cycle ride. 'To Croydon or just Streatham?' came the taunt from rival Lambeth 'journalists'. The early going wasn't too bad, with more bumps than hills, and plenty of stops to put chewing gum, ankle clips, saddle cushions etc.



4 (LEFT) Noone knew quite where these 'youngsters' got the energy from. They seemed to think it was fun going up 5 in 1 hills (don't tell me that should be 1 in 5). This picture sees them smiling their way down from Ditchling Beacon. Several riders swore the atmosphere was getting too thin for cycling on the way up.



6 (LEFT) Yes, you guessed it it's Brighton pier. Lots of smiles. Next on the agenda was loading the bikes on the Elephant Job lorry. Then a swim, the pub, hot baths - and a rather stiff Sunday. Meanwhile members of the QueenSpark community association planned a mass descent on London in return. WATCH OUT!

THE CYCLE RIDE WAS SPONSORED BY...

AND ALL THOSE INDIVIDUALS TOO NUMEROUS TO MENTION

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Abortion Rights

Contd. from front page

The Corrie Bill threatens abortion rights for women in three ways:-

1.Restricting Grounds

It will be almost impossible to get a doctor to do an abortion unless the woman's life is in grave danger or there is a substantial risk of serious injury to the woman's physical or mental health, or that of her children. These three words will make it practically impossible for the majority of women to get abortions.

2.Reducing Upper Time Limit

The present time limit is 28 weeks. The new limit would mean that doctors would not do abortions after 16 weeks, to allow for error. A woman would have to be literally dying before she could get a later abortion. The only exception would be if the foetus was severely handicapped.

3.Smashing Abortion Charities

Corrie says there can be no financial link between the referral agencies and the clinics where abortions are done. This will paralyse the charities, who at present deal with at least 25% of abortions. Where will women go for abortions if the Corrie Bill is passed? There are certainly no proposals in the Bill to help women get abortions on the NHS; in fact, with the health service getting brutally cut, getting an NHS abortion is already more difficult.

National Opposition to the Bill

The Labour Party and the TUC are against the Bill, so are doctors, nurses and midwives, including the British Medical Association and the Royal College of Gynaecologists and Obstetricians. What we need now are forceful campaigns in every area to get everyone to realise the threat to abortion rights contained in Corrie's Bill, and to make clear to our elected representatives that they must vote against this Bill. These local campaigns are well under way in many areas.

October Demonstration

The climax of the national campaign will be at the end of October before the Bill has its final reading. The TUC have called a demonstration for SUNDAY 28th OCTOBER, from Marble Arch to Trafalgar Square (assembly at 11.30). Please join us, and bring your friends, neighbours, and trade union branch members. Let's make sure the MP's get the message

glc Tories: 'bye bye to council housing'

THE GLC'S HOUSING POLICY can best be described as "Sell the best - Get rid of the rest".

Their strategy is threefold:

- * FIRST - SELL ANY PROPERTY WORTH LIVING IN
- * SECOND - TRANSFER THE REMAINDER TO THE LOCAL BOROUGH
- * THIRD - STOP BUILDING HOMES FOR RENT.

Their sales plan is accelerating with the appointment of a Director of House Sales.

IN THIS DETAILED REPORT, SE 1 REPORTS ON THE LIKELY EFFECTS THEIR TRANSFER PLAN WILL HAVE FOR OUR READERS.

As part of its aim to get out of its role as the country's biggest landlords the GLC is trying to transfer the bulk of its housing in January 1980 to local councils. Southwark Council has agreed to take over the 22,000 GLC homes in the borough together with nearly 900 GLC workers responsible for their management and maintenance. But Lambeth Council has steadfastly refused to have anything to do with the transfers, claiming that the present arrangements will make the Council, tenants and ratepayers worse off. The London Tenants Organisation is firmly opposed. All the other inner London Labour boroughs except Tower Hamlets have also refused to accept the GLC's transfer terms though some are negotiating.

There is little doubt that these terms will be bad for inner London resulting in higher rates, higher council rents, less maintenance of council housing and less chance for tenants to move to better housing.

Rents up

As a prelude to transfer the GLC has been making huge rent increases. Since August 1978 there has been an average increase of £1.80 (26%) with an average £1.20 (16%) last April and another increase due in October. The GLC's proposed subsidy system to local councils that take over GLC housing will assume that similar rent increases will continue. And if councils want to keep rents down then they'll either have to find the money elsewhere or put up the rates - unlikely when there is now so much pressure on the rates from government cuts.

Rates up

Older GLC property usually makes a profit. Most of this property is in outer London boroughs which will be able to keep this profit. In the past the

Moving round London

Up to now GLC tenants have found it much easier to move around London, especially from inner to outer London. In 1976 over 8,000 families from inner London were rehoused in outer London, 3% of the total lettings by the GLC in outer London. This will stop once the GLC housing is transferred to local councils and people living on estates like Tanswell in Lambeth or Tabard in Southwark will have virtually no hope of ever moving to better housing. The situation is made even worse by the fact that the GLC is selling off its best houses before transfer.



"We Conservatives have always believed in home-ownership - I personally own over a hundred and fifty ..."

BOROUGH COMMUNITY CENTRE

56 SOUTHWARK BRIDGE ROAD, SE1.

LARGE HALLS: SOCIALS £25 (youth clubs £15), WEDDINGS £30, MEETINGS £15, OTHER BOOKINGS £5 per hr. (£3 locals)
SMALL ROOMS £1.50 per hr. (queries? then phone up for rates)

2 HALLS FOR HIRE + SMALLER MEETING ROOMS + KITCHEN

BOOKINGS TAKEN FOR SOCIALS, WEDDINGS, MEETINGS, DANCES, CONFERENCES, JUMBLE SALES.

Write to Borough Community Centre or ring 928.8165 day, 407.6542 evening.

Bert's boots

Regulars at the Prince Albert in Colombo Street have organized a soccer team which will play in the London Kent & Border League.

Known as the 'Albert Football Club', it got off to a perfect start by winning its first friendly 4-0.



The team trains at Hatfields where it's attracted interested attention from local kids, and raised the possibility of a youngsters team sometime in the future.

Money for the club has come from raffles and other events. On Saturday September 22nd there'll be a Disco-Dance at the IPC Club in Colombo Street, from 7.30pm to midnight. All are welcome - tickets are £1.50, including buffet.

You can spot the players by the soft drink in their glasses - their matches are on Sunday mornings.

For more information contact Steve Ellerington, 102 Kingsley Flats, Old Kent Road. Tel 237-5379.

Benefit that backfired

A MEMBER OF THE SOUTH LONDON CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE SOCIAL SECURITY CUTS MAKES AN APOLOGY FOR THE 'SUPPLEMENTARY BENEFIT' THAT WENT WRONG ...

We were naturally very disappointed by the benefit for the campaign held in Colombo St. on July 27th. The bands which played assured us that at previous events there had always been a good friendly atmosphere.

At Colombo St however, some of the kids just had too much to drink. And the tension increased incredibly when a group of the kids from the fascist 'British Movement' turned up. Apparently the attendance of fascist kids is a disturbing new trend at musical events.

We do apologise for all the inconvenience caused to local people. All we can say is that the trouble was just about contained - and it certainly won't happen again!

By the way, the actual campaign is gaining strength, but the situation is becoming more and more urgent. In a recent confidential letter to department officials, Patrick Jenkin (the minister) said he recognised there was no more room for cosmetic cuts: what was needed was a radical attack on the level of services.

The November social security increases are almost bound to be paid later, due to lack of staff.

In response to this, there will be a picket at DHSS headquarters at Alexander Fleming House (Elephant and Castle), on August 29 (Wednesday), at 3.30 pm. The picket has been called by the CPSA, one of the DHSS unions.

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WATERLOO WOODY

"MESSIN' AROUND"

You can tell my hard hitting words are getting up the noses of certain folks - it's no coincidence both Southwark and the GLC have come up with extravagant lamp-post schemes, and it took me no time at all to see through their devillish intentions.

First Southwark decides to spend £15000 from its so-called "Environment Fund" to replace normal lamp-posts in Trinity Square with ye-olde-worlde-trendy-type-fake-gasse-lampe-postes.

Now the GLC says its going to spend £38,000 cleaning up the dolphin lamps by the Thames.

Well, it's a conspiracy! They figured I'd be lured to these flash perches like a mouse to the cheese in a trap...snap! I'd be theirs, like James Bond in Goldfinger's evil clutches.

So when I come visiting your ornaments it'll be on my terms, flying visits with my winged mates from above, and my four-legged ones from below.

The lesson is: don't mess with Woody or you'll find out what messin' is really all about.

W.W.



CAMPBELL BUILDINGS

Lambeth's Housing Sub-Committee is to consider the demolition programme for Campbell Buildings on September 15th.

A recent meeting between Campbell Buildings tenants and the Housing Chairperson Matthew Warburton, discussed the use of the "buffer" block (that is, the block which would stand nearest to the block being demolished, as each block in turn is pulled down).

Lambeth council with a huge waiting list quite rightly want to make as full use as possible of any empty housing which has a reasonable life, and is considering using the "buffer" blocks as short-term housing for people whom the Council has

no legal liability to rehouse, but whose housing need the Council recognises.

The tenants in Campbell Buildings are worried that using the "buffer" blocks for 'short-term' tenants will mean that the people put in the buffer blocks would get rehoused ahead of them - and might therefore be suspected of 'queue-jumping'. Warburton promised them that the Campbell Buildings tenants would get better re-housing offers than any short-term tenants, and that the use of the buffer blocks in this way would not cause any slowing down in the already delayed demolition programme.



DICKENS of a DEMO

OVER 30 CHILDREN from the Rockingham Estate marched on County Hall on Wednesday 15th August to demand a park on Dickens Square, a large derelict piece of land next to the estate and owned by the GLC.

The protest was in response to a rumour that the square was to be sold for private development.

Rockingham Estate Play Association (REPA) have been keeping an eye on the square ever since Southwark Council, in a fit of madness, destroyed the only other chance of easing the chronic shortage of open space on the estate by building on the site of the adventure playground in Meadow Row.

There are also noises that the residents of Trinity Church Square would also like use of the land.

Rockingham Estate, having over 1,000 flats, must have priority in deciding any future

use of the square, and the protest was to establish that consultation must take place.

Reg Goodwin, the local GLC member and leader of the Labour opposition at County Hall, met the children at the front entrance. He told them that as far as he knew there were plans for the GLC to lay out the Square as temporary open space. He agreed with REPA that if any money was going to be spent then the needs of local residents must be taken into account. He undertook to insist that nothing should happen until a meeting had taken place on the estate between officials of the GLC and Rockingham tenants.

Anne Keane, secretary of REPA told SE1 afterwards that she was pleased with the demonstration and felt it had made the point to Reg Goodwin that there were very strong feelings on the Estate about lack of playspace and open space.

WHAT DO YOU THINK WE NEED?

Lambeth Council are planning to make improvements to some of the open spaces in the Waterloo area, and this gives local residents an opportunity to make sure that the improvements meet the needs of the area. The Waterloo Community Development Group will be meeting with the Council planners in September to tell them what local people want - so if you've got an opinion on what you'd like to see done with any of these sites, call in at the Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road (where you can see rough plans), or contact Margaret Mellor, tel 928 5510.

Some suggestions have already been made, and you may wish to comment on these, or make other ones.

ST JOHN'S CHURCHYARD

Playspace?



BAYLIS ROAD CAR PARK



UFFORD STREET RECREATION GROUND
Playspace?
Parents' & pensioners' sitting out area?
Park?

BRIXTON CARNIVAL

LIVE MUSIC - THEATRE -
INFLATABLES -
5-A-SIDE FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT
DOMINO COMPETITIONS -
STALLS

ALL THIS AND MORE is on offer at Brixton Carnival '79 to be held at Brockwell Park on Saturday September 2nd.

The event is a Carnival against racism, bringing together in a day of fun people from all the races of which the community is made up.

Brixton Carnival '79 runs from noon to 7pm and is supported by a wide range of people and organisations, including Lambeth Council.

See you there!