



## FIGHT EVERY CUT

Rates decision round the corner

Local councillors in Lambeth and Southwark are preparing to make decisions on how to respond to the Government's demand for huge cuts in the services provided by local authorities. Their decisions will affect thousands of jobs - not only those of council employees who face possible 'redundancy', but also those of people like single parents as well as many married people who depend on child-care services to be able to go to work.

And they will affect the welfare and health, the housing and the leisure opportunities of every person.

In Lambeth several combinations of cuts in services and increases in rates and rents are being put forward. Many people, however, argue against both cuts and rate rises.

"INCREASING THE RATES IS THE SAME AS CUTTING SERVICES"

'Lambeth Fightback', the organisation formed to oppose cuts in Lambeth (their motto is: 'Fight Every Cut') takes this last position. At a recent meeting attended by over 150 people from tenants' groups and other community organisations, labour parties and council and other trade unions it was agreed that increasing the rates is the same as cutting services - either way it's a cut in living standards, and either way it means agreeing to carry out the Government's vicious policies.

Other suggestions being put forward include:

1. Increasing the rates by the full amount necessary to ensure the current services continue. Council Leader Ted Knight calculates that this would mean a 56% rate rise - and this is what he seems to be proposing at the moment.

2. Making no cuts but increasing the rates in line with inflation (about 20%). This doesn't

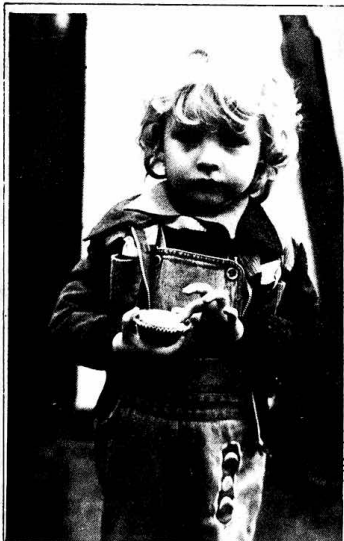
seem to square with Ted Knight's calculations!

3. Increasing the rates by 40%, and making some cuts, for instance in recreation facilities.

The major practical problem in the question is that any decision that opposes Government policy would mean that city financiers who make loans to local authorities would start refusing to go on lending money; and the Government intends to cut off funds to authorities that defy its policy.

If this started to happen, and the council could no longer pay all its wage bills, services would begin to be cut anyway.

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ROCKINGHAM CHRISTMAS PARTY - caught with the goods

## WOMEN'S ISSUE ♀♀♀♀

This is it! (almost), the time you've all been waiting for!!

The SE1 Women's Issue will be out next month.

If you would like to help put it together, join us on Saturday and/or Sunday the 16th and 17th of February - no experience necessary.

50<sup>th</sup> GREAT ISSUE



AND STILL GOING STRONG!

## ABORTION RIGHTS

WITH MP JOHN CORRIE'S ANTI-ABORTION BILL coming up for its final reading in Parliament in early February, campaigns opposing the Bill are continuing to press for its defeat.

In the week leading up to February 8th there will be 2 local events and 2 national ones - see below.

In January Southwark Abortion Campaign sent a delegation of 13 people to see Bob Mellish, MP for Bermondsey to put to him the arguments for voting against Corrie's bill.

The 3 major clauses of the Bill are:

1. Reduction of the time limit from 28 to 20 weeks.
2. A woman's life has to be in grave danger with substantial risk of serious injury to herself or her children.
3. No financial or personal links between private abortion clinic and referral agencies.

Having explained that these clauses would reduce the number of legal abortions by more than two-thirds, Bob Mellish agreed that he had no wish to see women forced into backstreet abortions - the inevitable outcome.

He expressed doubt in particular about Corrie's attack on the abortion charities and indicated that the reservations he felt would probably incline him to abstain on the vote.

The right to safe abortion is fundamental - no woman should be forced to continue with an unwanted pregnancy and its lifelong effects on everyone concerned. Every

child should be a wanted child.

If you believe this come and show your support at one or more of the following events:

### Local action

LOCAL TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION  
Thursday 7 February at 6pm  
from Dulwich Hospital (which has a day-care abortion unit) in East Dulwich Grove SE22.  
March to Kings College Hospital.

### national action

1. MASS LOBBY OF PARLIAMENT with presentation of national petition and MASS RALLY at Central Hall, Westminster both at 2pm on Tuesday 5 February  
Stalls, speakers & music at the rally.
2. NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF WOMEN 3pm Friday 8 February - the day the Bill is voted on. Speakers, discussion and theatre groups. Announcement of result at 4.30pm - followed by public rejoicing or outrage!

### What's inside

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# Cooper closed: only the rich need apply

COOPER CLOSE WAS DESCRIBED in the Daily Mirror January 17th 1980 as a 'Monument to Broken Dreams! Here a member of SCVS' Housing Advice Resource Unit explains why:

Newly-built flats in Waterloo Road have been lying empty for 8 months. And some disturbing facts have emerged about who may eventually occupy them.

The GLC, who own Cooper Close (formerly Quinn Buildings), suddenly decided not to use the flats as Council housing, but to make them into an "equity sharing co-op".

So they asked the Greater London Secondary Housing Association (GLSHA) to organise a 'Mark III Co-ownership' scheme there.

## empty flats

It's quite possible that the flats in Cooper Close will still be empty next April - one year after their completion. This is because the scheme is held up at the Dept. of the Environment pending further discussions between the GLC and DOE over the purchase price and the amount of public subsidy available.

GLSHA agreed that the present situation was "a scandal, really".

Some Southwark residents might consider the rent level being discussed in Cooper Close to be equally scandalous. The rents will apparently be twice the 'fair rent' level fixed by the Rent Officer on housing association flats. These in turn are higher than Council rents - though not much.

GLSHA couldn't give us exact rent figures (as these depend on the discussions with the DOE) but they thought the rents on the flats would be over £30 per week - "perhaps a bit less for single-person flats".

Because of the high rents, and the fact that occupants of Cooper Close won't be able to claim rent allowances if it is let on an equity-sharing basis GLSHA will refuse to consider applications from anyone on a lower income.

They couldn't tell us exactly what the minimum allowed income would be, but said it would be similar to - or even slightly higher than - the minimum level at their other equity-sharing scheme at Glen-

garry House, Tower Hamlets.

At Glangarry House, single applicants must have an income of at least £5000 pa., while families need up to £9000 pa for the larger flats.

This will cut many - probably a majority - of Southwark households out of Cooper Close.

## no advertising

Once the scheme gets going, the flats will be allocated by GLSHA. One-third will be for people who applied direct to GLSHA: the other two-thirds will be for people nominated by the GLC.

GLSHA said they had never advertised the scheme. Yet they said so many people had applied direct already that the waiting list for their one-third is now closed.

When pressed on how this could be the case, they admitted that "people heard about it on the grapevine" and that "quite a few staff from the GLC Housing Department have applied".

A case of knowing people in the know?

## NELSON SQUARE T.A.

This association was formed in June 1979 and finances itself with monthly subscriptions from its members. Monthly meetings are held at Blackfriars Settlement in Nelson Square and the committee members share the workload of printing the minutes and distributing information to the estate. Three newsletters have already been produced, keeping members informed of the association's work, and already there have been some gains for the estate. For example - installation of a communal television aerial, upgrading of lighting on the balconies, clearing building rubble, painting the steps of the doctor's surgery. The biggest success has been the installation of the automatic lifts (one each in Rowland Hill, Applegarth and Vaughan) in the blocks. These lifts were fought for by a group of residents who have received consistent support from the Tenants Association who will now carry on the fight to make sure the Council keep their promise to install further lifts in these blocks in the future. For more information please contact:

Mr. Strudwick (Chairman)  
198 Applegarth House.

Nelson Square TA meets second Monday in every month.

# A HARDY EXISTENCE

Most days you will find JOHN HARDY helping out on the garden stall in Lower Marsh. He 'retired' three years ago but found that he missed the market where he has spent most of his life. "I got bored", he told me, "so I went back".

John was born during the First World War and remembers crowding into Waterloo Station when the Zeppelins came over. He had 9 brothers and 2 sisters ("We slept three in the top of a bed and two at the bottom") not".

"He was supposed to be coming home", said Jessie, "but he never. And me with two little nippers. They done what they liked with you then".

John was taken prisoner of war in Tunisia but after three months and just when he was about to be shipped off to Germany he was released by the advancing 8th army. "They said

to dive in to get the place you wanted. You used to have to drop the copper 2 bob. Later they introduced a licence system."

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were open and everyone knew you. If you were hungry you could go into any house and you would be given something to eat."

His first job was looking after the horses that pulled the meat carts from the Nine Elms railway terminus to Smithfield market. But it wasn't long before he was back in the Lower Marsh - first on a sweet stall (panny a quarter) and then helping his father 'Old Joe' on the 'roots' stall.

"We used to put in a lot of hours then. We had to be at Covent Garden by 4am in order to get the plants and shrubs and then we would be on the stall from 7 in the morning to 11pm or 12 at night. When the punts turned out it used to get really busy. That was 6 days a week. On Sunday we stopped at 3pm."

"There were shops and stalls on both sides of the Market in those days. In order to get a pitch in the morning you had to be there early, and when the copper blew his whistle you had

to dive in to get the place you wanted. You used to have to drop the copper 2 bob. Later they introduced a licence system."

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AS PART OF THE NEW-LOOK 'SE 1' we will be having a regular features page in which we will carry interviews with local firms, institutions and personalities. This week Iain Tuckett visited Alaska studios - a punk rock rehearsal studio off Waterloo Road, and John Hardy who has spent his life as a stall-holder in the Lower Marsh Market. If you have ideas about future features please write to us at 12 Meymott St, SE 1.

# Underneath The Arches



SE1 has traditionally been a seedbed for new ideas. It was here, on Bankside, that the first theatres in England were opened - outside the City limits and away from the disapproving City authorities.

More recently the SE1 area has been adopted as a home by numbers of young artists and musicians. Studios and rehearsal rooms have been opened in derelict warehouses and under railway arches. Last week I visited ALASKA STUDIOS, hidden in the shadow of Waterloo Station East, and met Pat Collier who runs the studios.

"When I took over 3 1/2 years ago there was no mains water and only one electrical wire. We have put in a toilet, running water and electricity, and now we are putting down tiles."

Alaska Studios has three rehearsal rooms which have mainly been used by New Wave Groups such as Generation X, The Damned 1999, Public Image, S.O.U.S. and the Banshees, and Local Operator. "I used to be very idealistic when I started. I wanted to help young people start up. But I've had so much stuff smashed up that I want to concentrate on professionals now."

Pat, himself, broke into the music world, when, after working three years as a recording engineer for Decca, he started playing with a group called The Vibrators. "I just happened to be in the right place at the right time. There were only about four groups when Punk took off in 1976 and The Vibrators was one of them. Our first gig was with The Stranglers. We were paid £8 and they got £15. Our third gig was the Sex Pistols."

Why did Punk take off so suddenly? "The time was right. It was just so amazingly powerful. It was astonishing how the youth of Britain took to it. It grabbed the public attention. Everybody who at 14 years old wanted to be a rebel decided that this was what to be a rebel at."

In 1977 Pat left Decca to form his own group, The Boyfriends. They released three singles, but with "a monumental lack of success". In the meantime he had taken over Alaska Studios in order to put the group together. "The Studio has been a bit of a backwater. I hoped to use it but found that it was using me. We recently put in recording facilities and I hope to get more into the production side in the future."

What did he think of the current state of the music world? "Everything goes in cycles but people's views are broadening out. The artistic side of the record industry is very healthy. In 1975 only four new groups had hit singles but Punk changed that. Now people are buying outside the obvious - Paul McCartney and Elton John - and new acts are making it. But the business side is in recession. £5 per album is completely outrageous. People cannot afford it. It's hardly surprising sales drop."

Did he have a tip for the band to watch in 1980? "Holly and the Italians with their new record 'Tell that girl to shut up'."

I asked him why he had chosen them. Pat grinned. "Because I produced the record of course!"

## FRIARS NET £300

LAST TERM FRIARS SCHOOL RAISED £300 on a sponsored walk and a "Beat the Gossie" competition to buy new sports equipment. Part of the money has been spent on new football and netball kit which has certainly proved lucky as neither team has lost a match since the new kit arrived.

The boy's 6-a-side football team took part in the national competition for the London area schools on January 21st. 36 schools took part at the Flaxman Sports Centre, Brixton and after two exciting matches, the Friars team got to the final. This was a match full of suspense, resulting finally in a win for Friars 3-1, and they now go on to meet the finalists from another area.

The boys thought that their chances were slim, but due to their enthusiastic play and the encouragement of the parent supporters, they were a very tired but happy team when they arrived home. The team was Gary Teale, David Whips, David Read, Steyen Ellis, John Murray, Jon Burnby and Craig Smith.

## GOOD HEALTH AT THE BARLEY MOW

From the beginning of January the CHILD HEALTH CLINIC formerly held at Northcote House, Royal St has moved to Barley Mow Health Centre, Frazier St in the Tanswell Estate.

The clinic is still held at the same time - 2-4pm every Wednesday.

At Barley Mow clinic children up to 5 years can be immunised and have health and development checks. Problems of child health and management can be discussed with the health visitor and doctor. Cheaper welfare baby foods are also on sale.

The School Doctor is present and will see children from about 2 1/2 years and will also give free treatment to expectant mothers and those with children under one year.

The family planning clinic is held at the Barley Mow on Monday evening 5.45-7.30pm.



In January some young people (and some not so young) took part in a sponsored bike ride across London bridges to raise money for a party for handicapped children.



12 Meymott Street, SE1.  
tel: 928-1643

CHANGES in 'SE1' are already producing results, some of which you can see in this issue, like the Soapbox column and the features on page 3. More changes in the production and distribution of the paper will stream-

line the organisation of the paper and make it easier to get involved.

If you would like to help or find out more then give us a ring or come to one of the meetings listed below.  
MEETINGS Monday 11th Feb and Thursday 21st Feb at 7.30pm at the SE1 office, 12 Meymott St.  
DEADLINE for next issue: Thursday 21st February.  
PASTE-UP 23,24 Feb from 11am  
PUBLICATION of March issue on 29th February.

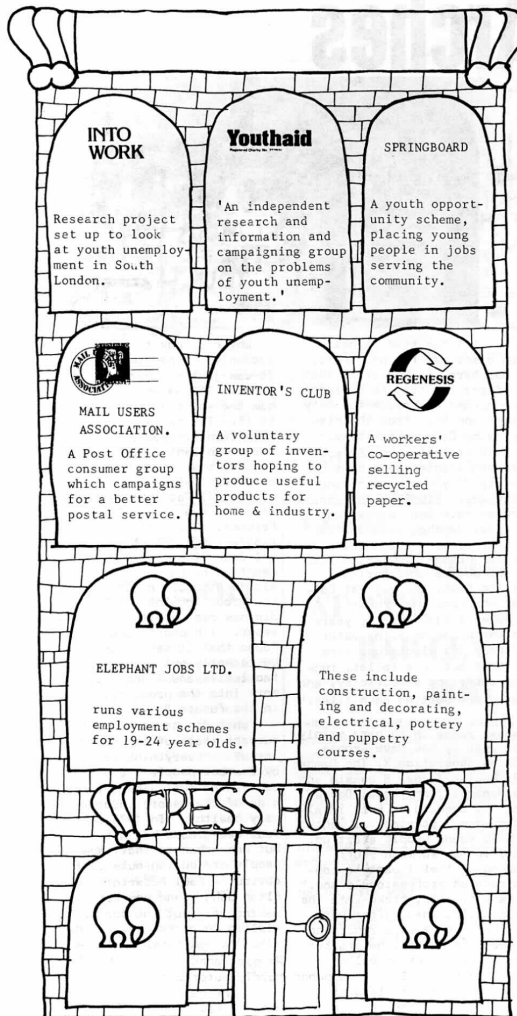


## TRESS HOUSE: INTO THE 80'S

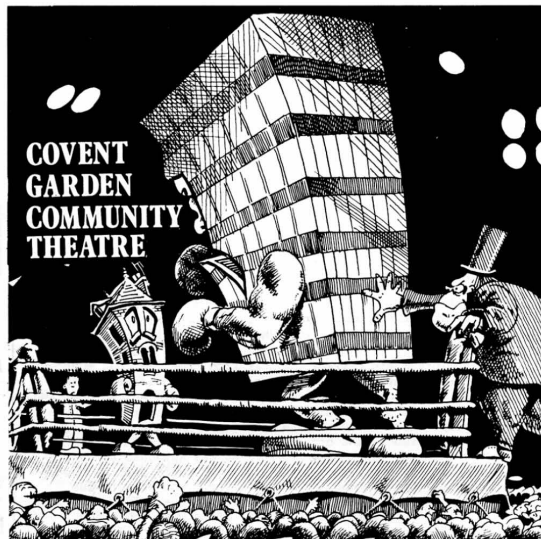
You may remember Tress House in Stamford Street. It was first owned by Sainsbury's and then proposed as the site for a single person's hostel.

It has now been taken over by Elephant Jobs Ltd., London's biggest youth unemployment project. They then invited six other community based groups to share the building.

As one of those groups, we at INTO WORK thought it was time to put you in the picture of what's been happening inside Tress House lately. We hope you'll get a clearer idea of what's been going on from the picture below.



We hope that we have given you a feel of the building, as future references will be made to it by us, the INTO WORK team. We hope to be sending more articles your way so beware.....



"If the public are inconvenient and don't fit in with our plans we cannot afford to be lenient. But we have to please the fans. So we wrap them up in a ruddy red tape. You'll quickly learn the knack. Specify, mystify. Keep them from the facts"

On 16th December the John Marshall Hall echoed with these words when Covent Garden Community Theatre entertained party goers from the Coin Street Action Group. These words from the group's "End of The Road Show" which dealt with the bias of planning and development, towards commercial interests were particularly relevant as the people of Waterloo braced themselves for the final rounds of their battle with the commercial developers over Coin Street.

Covent Garden Community Theatre were formed in 1975 to entertain and educate. Their shows have dealt with a wide range of material from the problems of housing and offices to the issue of energy, the subject of their latest production. They have taken their unique blend of entertainment to areas and places where you might not expect to find theatre. Many a street, pub and festival have echoed with the saga of incompetent and selfish planners, unscrupulous politicians and vested interest but not without showing that spirited collective action at grassroots can pay dividends. So all those of us who enjoyed Covent Garden Community Theatre's last show, watch out for "The Amazing Case of Sir Roger Pimp and His Most Amazing Case", their energy show which will surely give us the energy to see them in the near future.

## COLOMBO ST. CENTRE

On Friday evening, February 15th there will be a JUNIOR BOXING TOURNAMENT at the centre. Come and support your local STAMFORD BOXING CLUB.



### Weight Training

Thanks to help from local volunteers the centre's exercise / weight-training room is almost ready.

People wishing to use the room should sign up now for the taster courses.

These will run for 4 weeks on Monday or Wednesday starting FEB 11th and FEB 20th.

FIRST PRIZE - it's in the bag

## THE DICKENS OF A YOUTH PROJECT

Blackfriars Youth Project is based in the Pickwick Youth and Community Centre in Rushworth Street, London SE1. The Project's aims, developed through group work methods in small groups, in clubs and in other youth activities, are:

- 1) To enable young people to understand issues/problems they face and help them to deal with them
- 2) To provide activities for their enjoyment which may assist in social and personal development
- 3) To explore ways in which young people can act as a resource for their community.

Staffing the project are 2 full-time workers, Stella Butler and Geoff Philips, 2 full-

constant hunt for volunteers. Three of the Pickwick Clubs are organised by the Dorrits, a group of Mums who have been involved in this work for 12 years. They work on Mondays and Fridays with teenagers, and on Tuesdays with 6 to 12 year olds.

Many activities are developed in the clubs including Arts and Crafts, drama, sports, games, discussions, cooking, quizzes, video, swimming and clubtrips. Each club being run

at a holiday centre, camping site or hires a large holiday home and plans a 'full programme'. Members of clubs pay a fee towards the cost, but holidays are heavily subsidised from charitable sources and various fund raising schemes. The Youth Project also organises a special Summer project for local children at the Pickwick Centre, which includes an arts workshop, games and outings to places of interest in and around London.

The Blackfriars Youth Project sees itself as a community resource, making available clubs and activities for local children and young people, as well as developing new initiatives. If there are people who would like to know more, or who feel that they would like to help, please phone Stella or Geoff on 633 0383.

## PICKWICK MUMS MEET

Did you know there is a rather grand toddler group meeting at the Pickwick Community and Youth Centre in Pocock Street every Monday 1.30-3.30 p.m.?

We have been meeting since May 1979 and have covered several topics of interest as well as organised a jumble sale, Christmas party for the kids, and a night out for the women. Some of the future programmes will cover topics such as marriage counselling, beauty care, sex education for children, local planning issues/information, provision for under fives in SE1. There is a creche and refreshments are available.

For further details please phone:-

Barbara Holland - 928 9521 Blackfriars Settlement.

Pickwick Mums Group meets every Monday.

slightly differently according to the skills and organisation of the staff.

Besides the basic clubs, girls' groups have been formed in which discussions take place concerning personal and group problems, life situations and groups participate in various experiences, including role play, use of video, special trips etc.

On a Sunday evening the Project is starting a teenage coffee bar/drop in centre in the Pickwick Centre Cafe. This will be an open door for young people to meet friends, play table tennis, watch TV, chat in groups and obtain light refreshments. During the summer months, the Project is very active. Each club participates in a holidays away project, and arranges a stay

### ENTERTAINMENT IN WATERLOO

FRIDAY, FEB. 29th - 7.30PM

Waterloo Amenities in conjunction with Lambeth Amenities will be putting on a VARIETY SHOW at the Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road, Waterloo, SE1. Artists include:

BARRY HOPKINS (Singer) International Recording Artist  
JIMMY DE LANEY (Comedy Impressionist)

BOB ANDREWS (Comedian)

The show will be compered by KENT BAKER.

A first class show not to be missed

Prices of admission: 50p. Senior Citizens, 25p

Tickets can be obtained at The Waterloo Action Centre



## EWAN CARR

Stuart Holland, MP for Lambeth and Vauxhall, writes:

COUNCILLOR EWAN CARR, twice Mayor of Lambeth, who died recently, will be much missed in Lambeth. Ewan not only fought hard for the interests of working people in Vauxhall, but was also a man of great personality, good humour and good will.

He had many close friends who worked with him in the Vauxhall Labour party and on the GLC, but also many admirers among his political opponents in other parties.

His warmth and wit, besides his care and compassion, were also well-known outside the confines of the political arena.

Ewan's death was untimely. Many of us had expected him to continue to play an active role for several years and then enjoy a well earned retirement. In this above all, our sympathy and support is due to his wife and family, who have been so suddenly bereaved.

Their great loss is also our loss. Yet his example will be well remembered and live on with us all.

(Stuart Holland will represent GLC casework in Vauxhall until the election of Mr. Carr's successor. His weekly 'surgery' is between 7 and 8 pm on Wednesdays at the Citizen's Advice Centre, 323 Kennington Road, SE1.)

## COIN ST. BADGE

A house fighting back against office blocks closing in on it - what else could it be but the design of a new badge from the Coin Street Action Group.

It goes well with any clothing, helps start interesting conversations with strangers, will make you the envy of the neighbourhood and costs only 20p from the Waterloo Action Centre at 14 Baylis Road SE1.

It's shown here about twice as big as in real life, so you won't get a hernia carrying it around.



THE WORD CLINICAL USED to mean bedside care. Over the years it has turned turtle. It now means cold, objective ways of healing diseases or injuries without the involvement of the people who suffer from them.

I have a similar problem with a word applied to me - religious. It is an odd life in which most everything you believe you stand for, other people believe you are against. I am for human living that is ever alert to keep in homes, streets, factories, offices, hospitals, schools, associations, unions, professions etc. as settings where everybody (repeat, everybody) involved finds just and joyful living. My guess is that many, if not most people think of religion as a concern for some kind of escape from the nitty-gritty and the hum-drum, into activities of wishful thinking, called worship, taking place in under-used and un-welcome buildings called churches.

I don't use the word religious much. I am content to try to make it clear that I have a lot of faith in a positive purpose of creation despite natural disasters and that I have a lot of faith in humans despite the elements of inhumanity in all of us. And violent some of that humanity is too, in me and in you. I have a load of doubts as well, which my faith helps me wrestle with; rather than ignore them or be depressed by them. I can happily use the word God and the experience other people have of God to help me explore the meaning of creation as it affects us here in SE1. I can happily use the name Jesus and the title his close associates gave him, Christ, to help me explore how our humanity can outdo our inhumanity. The pressures of life make us inhuman towards one another: the pressures of God offer us ways back to our humanity. Christian faith is about earthly humanity, despite some terrible confusions the Church has created between a living, everyday faith and a ritualistic, occasional religiosity.

## SE1 SOAPBOX

THIS IS THE FIRST IN A NEW SERIES where SE1 invites local people to air their views. The series kicks off with Peter Challen, vicar of Christchurch in Blackfriars Road and a member of South London Industrial Mission.



Photograph by Michael Page

My personal Christian faith and my professional expression of it leads me into an arduous and deeply satisfying life. Much the greater number of hours are spent in those places mentioned above, talking and working with people about better practical human living of a kind our children and our children's children can inherit. A few hours I spend in worshipping God so that the bulk of my other hours are not a blind drifting into worship of money, status or whatever.

I hope that I frequently surprise people by revealing that I am for humanity as I find it in each member of the human race warts and all; not for converting people to what some vague dreaming suggests it all might 'religiously' be.



## A NEW BOOK ABOUT SE1

'A SENSE OF ADVENTURE' is the title of the S.E.1 People's History group's first printed book, just published this month. The author is Dolly Davey, well known to many round the S.E.1 area for her activities in the Munro House tenants group, at the Waterloo Action Centre, and during the Coin Street Inquiry.

The book tells the story of Dolly's life, from when she came to London on the early morning bus from Stockton in 1930, till today. Dolly always meant her arrival in London to be a stepping stone to adventure. Instead, she worked in domestic service for four years. After marrying Fred, in 1936, she moved into the Waterloo area. The book tells of their ups and downs in the last 45 years.

The book is also about the process of remembering and piecing together the past. Some of the photographs were taken by Blackfriars Photography Project. Oval Printshop, Kennington did the printing, the North Lambeth and North Southwark Community Education Project provided the money to publish it. There are 2,000 copies printed and it's all been made by local work!

We shall welcome anyone to our publication party on Tuesday February 5th, at 7.30 in North Lambeth Library, to share with us and with Dolly the celebration of S.E.1 People's History's first book. This is, as they say, history in the making.

I would welcome help in turning the Christian idea back the right way up: though if we manage it it might turn some of our habits up the other way too.



Charles Babbage (1792 - 1871), born at 44 Crosby Row, SE1. Portrait from Illustrated London News 1971.

## 150 years ago

It is still not very common knowledge that the modern computer - that is, the automatic logical and computational capabilities inherent in today's silicon chip - was first dreamed up by a SE1-born mathematician named Charles Babbage about a century and a half ago. Because his ideas were too far ahead of the technology of the time, they were forgotten, and the computer was reinvented from scratch more than a hundred years later.

In the last fifteen or twenty years Babbage has been rediscovered by scientists and historians, and given the appreciation which politicians denied him during his life. More recently, Dr. J.M. Dobbey, who heads the Department of Mathematical Sciences and Computing at the Polytechnic of the South Bank (S.E.1), has studied his pioneering work as a mathematician. But it was not until 1975 that Babbage's birthplace in SE1 was established by A.M. Hyman. He did this by taking two early memories which appeared in Babbage's autobiography, *Passages from the Life of a Philosopher* (published in 1864), and scanning parish registers between the places mentioned. The tell-tale passages were the following:

## mystery unfolds

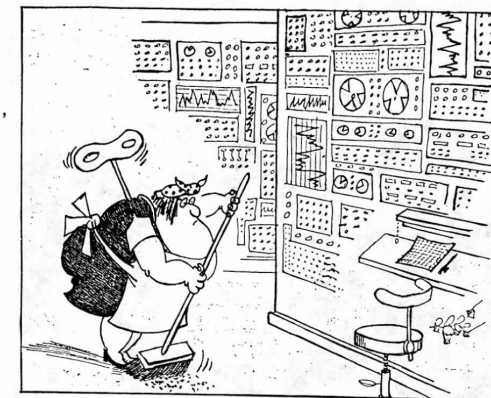
"When about five years old, I was walking with my nurse, who had in her arms an infant brother of mine, across London Bridge, holding, as I thought, by her apron. I was looking at the ships in the river. On turning round to speak to her, I found that my nurse was not there, and that I was alone upon London Bridge. My mother had always impressed upon me the necessity of great caution in passing any street crossing: I went on, therefore, quietly until I reached Tooley Street, where I remained watching the passing vehicles, in order to find a safe opportunity of crossing that very busy street.

# SE1 SCIENTIST DISCOVERED

NEW TECHNOLOGY IS OLD HAT

## the answer

Searching between Tooley Street and Walworth, Hyman found the baptismal entry he sought in the Parish Register of St. Mary's, Newington: '6th January 1792 Charles s. of Benjamin and Betsy Plumleigh Babbage'. He suggests the actual birthplace was the family residence at 44 Crosby Row, near the Walworth Road. (To be continued. Next issue, Babbage tries to build his computer in SE1.)



## 2nd clue

"Those who delight in coincidences may perhaps account for the following singular one. Several years ago when the houses in Tooley Street were being pulled down, I believe

## On a clear day you can see Ireland

TWO MORE FLOORS AND YOU COULD SEE FOREVER . . . . .

GREEN GIANT CLOBBERED by angry local residents who, for once, were joined by the power of 'top people' from across the river in Chelsea.

Yet another Public Inquiry into yet another monstrous proposal for an 'Incredible Hulk' of office development on the river in North Lambeth! This time it is proposed by Townsend-Thoresen Ferries (whose boss is a Conservative

M.P.) and is for the downstream site next to Vauxhall Bridge (as explained in Dec/Jan SE1).

The 3 Neighbourhood Councils in Vauxhall, North Lambeth and Waterloo all expressed angry opposition to this proposed monster at the Public Inquiry, but the press, TV and radio were mainly interested in the opposition expressed by famous names such as Lord Duncan Sandys, the Archbishop of

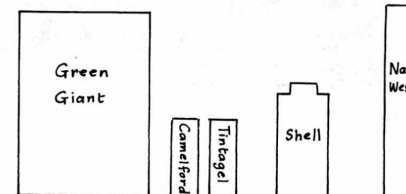
Canterbury, Lord Jellicoe, Lord Chalfont, Lady Wynne-Jones and Henry Moore etc. Fortunately, Stuart Holland, our local M.P., was able to get some publicity for the local voice.

As bait for planning permission the developers are offering to include other things, such as luxury housing, a public patio, an exhibition area and a squash court or two.

None of this would be any real gain for local residents and would not compensate for imposing such a monster on the area.

The Inspector at the Public Inquiry was left in no doubt as to local opinion about the Green Giant. He must now write his recommendations and present them for a decision by Michael Heseltine (Conservative Secretary of State for the Environment).

If he gives permission for this monster it will create another precedent for further devastation of local communities and of the riverside environment.



This diagram shows the size of the Green Giant in relation to London's current collection of monsters. The Giant would block views across the river and throw shadows across the new Spring Gardens Park. It would cause terrible wind turbulence all around it and be a grossly dominating presence.

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There will be a Women and Housing Conference on Saturday, March 1st from 10am to 5pm at Working Men's College, Crowndale Rd, NW1.

Workshops will include homelessness, Joint Tenancies, Women in Tenants' Groups, Women's Aid, Housing Policy,

Films etc.

There will be a creche. Registration £1.50 (50p if unwaged).

Further information and registration/papers in advance from the Women and Housing Group, c/o After Six, 48 William IV St., WC2.

## BROWN PAPER AND VINEGAR

'Brimstone and treacle! tuppence a glass! So you remember swallowing a glassful straight off the stall in the Cut? After all, they say it was good for your blood, even if it didn't taste too nice. What did you do as a child, if you had a headache, and aspirin wasn't to be had? Maybe, like George Dennis, you got sent out to get a pinch of snuff? or if that didn't work, perhaps you had brown paper, soaked in vinegar, wrapped around your head?

If you were a child in the 20's, you may remember Dr. Franklin being called in if there was illness in the family. Perhaps

you recall Dr. Parker who used to poke the children with his umbrella as he walked from one patient's home to the next.

These and other memories have been discussed in recent meetings of the S.E.1 People's History Group. We would be glad to hear from anyone who could tell us how ordinary people kept ill health at bay before the National Health Act after the war. If it is hard for you to get to one of our Tuesday evening meetings, just leave your name at the North Lambeth Library (Lower Marsh) where we meet, and we can get in touch. One of us can come and visit you.



# WE NEED MORE NURSERIES

The Southwark Child Care Campaign organised a lobby of the Social Services Committee on 8th January as part of their continued action to gain acceptance at local and national level of the need to provide good child care facilities for children of working parents. The lobby was well supported with children and adults from all over the borough adding their weight to the demand.

## PETITION

A deputation then went into the meeting and presented a petition of nearly 2000 signatures calling for councillor and M.P. support in gaining Government commitment to extend nurseries, nursery education and after school and holiday facilities for all children.

The signatures were collected throughout last year as part of the Campaign's contribution to the International Year of the

Child. The Social Services Committee gave their unanimous support and the Chairman is presenting it to full Council with a request that Southwark councillors present it to the local M.P.s asking them to further the demands.

## NEXT EVENT

The next event being organised by the Southwark Child Care Campaign is their Annual General Meeting on SATURDAY 16th FEBRUARY at 2.00pm at the Borough Community Centre, Southwark Bridge Road, SE1 (at the corner of Union Street). Tess Woodcraft, NALGO, will be speaking on public expenditure cuts and the increasing attack on women and their right to work. There will also be a discussion on local action.

It is an open meeting and everyone is most welcome. A creche will be provided.

# OUR HEALTH SERVICES

WE LIVE IN LAMBETH, LEWISHAM AND SOUTHWARK AREA HEALTH AUTHORITY. This is divided up into 4 health districts - King's District, Lewisham District, Guy's District and St. Thomas' District. Guy's District and St. Thomas' District are the ones which concern us, with St. Thomas' District covering Waterloo, and Guy's District covering North Southwark.

All the health services in each area come under one health district, e.g. hospitals, out-patient clinics, family planning clinics, baby clinics etc. Each health district has a Community Health Council. The Community Health Council is there to put your point of view to the health district. Their addresses are:

Guy's Community Health Council  
Francis House  
King's Head Yard,  
Borough High Street, SE1

&  
St. Thomas' Comm. Health Council  
2 Cleaver St., SE11.  
Tel: 582 3238/88

These districts now come under 5 commissioners appointed by the Department of Health & Social Security, and each district has been instructed by the Commissioners to make cuts in their budgets.

## No improvement

St. Thomas' Health District (Waterloo) plans to maintain the services it currently provides and 'to ensure by the efficient management of its resources that financial policies affect the care received by patients as little as possible'. However, although there are no cuts in patients' services in St. Thomas' District there will be no expansion either! This means that the service will not be improved. People living in Waterloo should be saying what the problems are in the service and where improvements could be made; e.g. there is a two-year waiting list to have a hearing aid fitted at St. Thomas' Hospital.

## 15% Cuts

In Guy's District cuts are very definitely being made to patient services. There is now a 15% cut in all out-patient services. That is to say that one in every six clinics has been cut. This includes ante-natal clinics, baby-clinics, chiropody and out-patient clinics which are held in hospitals. The waiting time for many of these services is already quite long and cutting down the number of clinics will make the wait even longer.

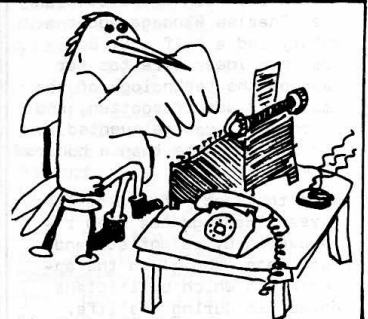
Following the closure of the in-patient services at St Olave's Hospital in the teeth

of fierce local opposition, the signs are emerging that the out-patient services at the much-loved hospital are to be axed as well. This would mean the complete shut down of the hospital.

The Health Service Commissioners (the 'gang of five' put in by the Government when it suspended the Area Health Authority) said, when they closed in-patient facilities, that the local community would continue to have its out-patient services provided at St Olave's.

Now, it seems, plans are being prepared to go back on this promise.

We should not just be struggling to keep the services we have already, we should be saying very clearly what we want for the health of local people. Contact the Waterloo Health Project at Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road, SE1. Tel: 261 1404.



## WATERLOO WOODY

Having a flight round the Esso site at Vauxhall where developers want to build the large office building now known as the Green Giant or the Incredible Hulk, I was caught up in wind turbulence created by the high buildings there and blown over to Chelsea Embankment.

When, blow me down, I saw some people who had attracted my attention at the Coin St. inquiry enter a house there. The home of Lord and Lady Rasheen Wynne-Jones.

I thought this was too good to miss so I alighted on the window sill to have a bird's-eye view.

They had gathered there to support the "Friends of Chelsea" to object to the "Incredible Hulk".

But the highlight for them must have been being served tea and crumpets by Lord Wynne-Jones in the presence of Princess Aly Khan.

It seems that when highrise office building interferes with the environment of Chelsea influential people take notice as reported on the television and in the press.

I hope the Secretary of State will think of the people of Waterloo when he makes a decision on the Coin St. Inquiry.



## Fight every cut

Continued from Page One.

the calculation everyone is making is: for how long can you defy the Government?

The answer depends on how much support there is for that defiance. Inside Lambeth (or Southwark) it means how many people are prepared to come out and say 'we are against the policy of breaking up the welfare services, and we stand behind those who will defy that policy.'

The Council unions are in a dilemma - they oppose the cuts, but find it hard to support any policy that would mean the Council running out of money to pay the wages.

Nor can Lambeth stand alone for long - it needs other local councils, like those in South Yorkshire, to join in.

The Labour group in Lambeth Council is to make a decision on February 16th, and there is to be a mass lobby of this meeting at Lambeth Town Hall,

at 6.30 pm.

In Southwark a large lobby of the full council meeting supported a deputation which was to address the Council on the question of cuts, but the Councillors managed to avoid hearing the delegation by deferring the item on the agenda until next month.

So now Southwark Council will discuss the whole question next month.

Meanwhile, steps have been taken to bring together all those people and groups in the borough who are opposed to the cuts.

## CORRECTION: COUNCILLORS' SURGERIES

Last month's issue was misleading. Bryn Davies will hold a surgery at China Walk Tenants' Hall, Lambeth Walk, Thursdays 6.30-7.30pm, rotating with Pam Verden & Peter Lane, the other two ward councillors. This is in addition to Bryn's surgeries at the Waterloo Action Centre.