



HAYS WHARF SPECULATORS MOVE IN

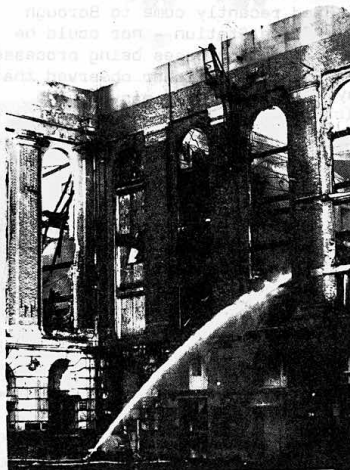
As SE1 goes to press, Hays Wharf Ltd. is firing the opening shot in their campaign to gain public approval for their latest massive speculative proposals, involving over 2 million square feet of offices (the equivalent of 14 Centre Points), and precious little else on the 24 acre site between London Bridge and Tower Bridge. An exhibition revealing this latest blatant piece of profiteering by the company that brought you Anchor Butter, is currently being shown at their head offices in Tooley Street.

Earlier equally ambitious schemes, such as the infamous "City within a City", foundered when they hit a wall of criticism from local residents, who already outraged at earlier dealings with Hays Wharf Ltd, relating particularly to the closure of the Wharf, were not going to see the land that literally provided their bread and butter snatched from under their noses, and handed on a plate to a motley collection of property companies, and Arab conglomerates.

The picture looks like being repeated and already the Bermondsey Labour Party has lodged strong opposition to the scheme with Southwark Council. The Bermondsey Labour Party has also managed to get a commitment in the next GLC Labour manifesto to buy sites like Hays Wharf for family housing and recreation, and put a stop to the speculation that has swept the riverside from Battersea through Vauxhall to Waterloo and on down Southwark's waterfront.

The North Southwark Community development Group has also condemned the proposals, arguing that for many years local people have been pressing for badly needed family housing and industrial employment. They are supported in this by the Tooley Street Tenants Association who carried out a house to house survey. This was submitted by the TA as their contribution to the emerging North Southwark Local Plan. It strongly rejected the idea of any more office developments in the area.

The NSCDG is calling a special meeting on June 9th to plan a strategy of opposition to the Hays Wharf proposals. Several local councillors are likely to attend and lend their support to



the campaign. With signs of the property boom returning, it looks as though residents will need all the strength they can muster, but the years that have intervened between the last boom and now have seen an upsurge in local Tenants Associations and other groups determined to protect North Southwark from similar ravages. If you would like to help in any way, please write to NSCDG c/o 156b Union Street, SE1, or phone 928 6476 or 928 6658.

TORIES HALT HOUSING

LAMBETH COUNCIL WILL NOT BE STARTING ANY NEW HOUSING SCHEMES THIS YEAR. It expects to rehouse very few families from the waiting list. The future of 1,500 homeless people is in jeopardy. These are the first results of the Government's housing cuts in Lambeth.

Lambeth had asked the Government for permission to undertake an £82 million housing investment programme. The Government have told the Council it can only borrow up to £55 million. Of this only £6 million is not already committed to on-going projects. Most of the remaining money will be used up in urgent repairs such as removing dangerous asbestos. Lambeth have decided that any money left over after this should be used to restore the housing improvement programme to last year's level.

What's inside

PAGE TWO : Police harassment on the Rockingham + Letters

PAGES FOUR & FIVE : Waterloo Action Centre past & present

PAGE EIGHT : Waterloo Woody discusses birds and the PR machine in Southwark.

Dear Reader,

This year has been a difficult one for 'SE1', with some of our most experienced and hard-working volunteers moving on to new areas, or being compelled to lessen the amount of timespent working on the paper. With increased printing costs, money is also a permanent problem.

Nevertheless, we have produced our 50th issue, and our fifth anniversary is coming up next month.

More importantly, there have been many exciting developments in the paper, following the decisions of last year's Annual General Meeting. We've had a regular Tenants' News section for the first time, and many more local feature stories.. Our columnist Waterloo Woody has begun making regular contributions from his perch... We've also conducted two 'work-shops' (with Rockingham T.A. and Blackfriars Literacy Scheme) in which they have written, typed, and pasted up their own material.

This year's ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING is to be held at the Colombo Street Sports and Community Centre, Colombo Street, SE1 (off Blackfriars Road, between Stamford St. and the Cut). It will begin at 8pm on THURSDAY, 3rd JULY.

ALL READERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THIS MEETING, and we hope many of you will take this opportunity to give your views of your local paper - and even to get more involved in the running of the paper during the coming year.

The meeting will also coincide with the 5th ANNIVERSARY of the paper, and it is proposed to hold a modest celebration of this amazing feat of stamina after the meeting has ended.

Looking forward to seeing you on 3rd July.

The future of 1,500 homeless families looks bleak. One of the Labour Group's manifesto promises was to re-house homeless families and end the use of bed-and-breakfast hostels. This promisewas to be fulfilled this year but with the axing of the new-build programme this now looks as if it will be impossible. However the Council has put no money in this year's budget for bed-and-breakfast...

DAY OF ACTION

After the successful 'Day of Action' on May 14th, the Southwark Campaign against the Cuts is organising two local events (see back page). The picture below shows the march gathered at the Elephant and Castle.



Rockingham Intimidation

ROCKINGHAM ESTATE COMMUNITY - Tenants Association, Play Association and Welfare Joint Committee - called a public meeting on 12 May to discuss police intimidation. The guest speakers were Bob Mellish MP, vice-chairman of the Docklands Development Corporation; Chief Inspector Longhurst from the Borough Police Station; Chief Inspector Cadman, Community Liaison Officer; Michael Fisher, chairman Teenage Information Network; Richard Hazell, Cambridge House Law Centre; Rev Jack Pawsey, Southwark Diocesan Enquiry into Police/Community Relations.

John Axon welcomed the guests and said that since the public meeting on Police harassment held at Rockingham last October there had occurred a number of disturbing incidents in the estate where police had acted in a way that could only be interpreted as the deliberate intimidation of individuals who had lodged complaints against the police. The object of this action presumably to frighten the complainant into withdrawing the complaint as has happened so often in the past on Rockingham.

Peter Tatchek, in introducing Bob Mellish, said that as well as considering the individual case that would be brought up in the course of the evening, it was necessary to look at more positive aspects of police/community relations and in particular at the need to introduce in a meaningful way the concept of community policing.

Bob Mellish said that he was surprised that no one from Rockingham had complained to him about police harassment or intimidation. However as he expressed the view that the real problem on the Rockingham was the lack of resident caretakers, many people at the meeting were not surprised that complainants had not bothered to take such important questions to him.

Micky Stapleton, Secretary, introduced a number of specific cases of intimidation, backed up by tenants who had suffered from police intimidation.

Chief Inspector Longhurst said that he was not aware of the incidents mentioned as he had recently come to Borough Police Station - nor could he comment on cases being processed.

Michael Fisher observed that in dealing with many of the police stations in Southwark, the Borough had the worst reputation for rude, inconsiderate and inhumane treatment of both suspects and visitors.

Chief Inspector Cadman hoped that police/community relations could be improved through such schemes as the 5-a-side soccer competitions that the police were organising.

Practice at putting the boot in?

Rockingham

Diary

JUNE			
1 SUN	7.30	TA Committee	
4 WEDS	2.00	English Teaching Theatre Show	
7 SAT	8.00	Cockney Night	
10 TUES	1.00	Mums & Toddlers restart	
16 MON	2.00	BIAS Open meeting	
21 SAT	2.00	REPA Jumble Sale	
23 MON	7.00	English Teaching Support Group	
26 THUR	3.00	Welfare Joint Committee	
28 SAT	2.00	Midsummer Fete	
29 SUN	8.00	Midsummer Concert	

JULY			
6 SUN	7.30	TA Committee	
21 MON	7.30	REPA Committee	
23 WEDS	7.30	TA AGM	
31 THUR	3.00	Welfare Joint Committee	



SEE ALSO PAGE 6 FOR NEWS ABOUT PROPOSALS FOR NEW TENANCY AGREEMENTS FOR EX-GLC TENANTS IN SOUTHWARK

Edward Henry

NOW THAT BUILDING WORK HAS STARTED ON Edward Henry House, Cornwall Rd, the project is at last becoming real to the members of the Housing Co-operative which owns the buildings.

Members have looked round the flats to get an idea of their size and layout. Many members had never seen inside Edward Henry but others can remember playing there as children when they were still occupied as police flats.

When flats are allocated to existing members, tenants will be choosing colours for walls, kitchen units, floor tiles and front doors or, if they wish, installing their own fittings and doing their own decoration.

The flats in the Cornwall Rd block are due to be completed in July 1981, those in Coin St in September 1981. Ground and 1st floor flats will be mainly 2 & 3 bedrooms; the upper floor 1 & 2 bedroom flats. Modernisation will provide new bathrooms and kitchens, new windows and partial central heating. There will also be lifts, small gardens for ground floor flats, allotments and a community centre. At April's Co-op meeting Barbara Joel was elected chairperson and Lesley Dakes was elected secretary.

Hatch Row Go-Ahead

The Hatch Row co-operative, the group of local people who for the last four years have been working to develop the derelict site at the Hatfield end of Roupell St, have received detailed planning permission for their scheme of 15 houses, 4 flats and a communal open space. The co-operative bought the land from the GLC last year. The architects are now producing working drawings, and it is hoped that building will start next spring.

NEWSAGENT OF THE MONTH

Stricklands, the stationers and confectioners in the Cut, have just started selling SE1 in May. In the photo are Jacky, who was born in SE1 and has worked at Stricklands for 20 years, and Barry, who has been there for 6 years.

Stricklands has been established for over 100 years. It used to be in Blackfriars Rd but moved to the Cut 14 years ago.



Skates The Colombo Street artistic roller skating class is proving extremely popular with local kids and adults, and good fun is had by all, as can be seen in the photograph.

Boxing Champ

Paul Scarborough, the London Amateur Boxing Assoc. title holder in the 71-74 kilo class, fought a close fight at the Junior ABA National Championships on 30 May. The majority verdict went 2-1 against him but in view of a recently injured shoulder this was nothing to be ashamed of. Paul had won his previous 7 fights.



FRIENDS WANTED

This is Dorothy. She would call herself quite an ordinary person. She has a busy life, has brought up two children and is now a devoted Granny to five more. Not long ago she lost her husband. They had been married 34 years, and life seemed bleak and pointless for a while. She made up her mind that she would like to give some of the empty hours after work to someone who really needed them.

Quite by chance, she heard of an appeal by the Southwark Association for Mental Health for people who could spare a little time, each week, to befriend someone who has lost contact with society through prolonged care of a sick relative, mental breakdown, or some other form of disablement. She went along to the meeting, liked the idea, and agreed to give it a try. We put her in touch with Mary X, an elderly lady who lives nearby, quite



alone, has suffered from depression for many years, had two admissions to a psychiatric hospital, and lost all confidence in herself.

Now Dorothy visits her every week. They may plan an outing or just sit and chat. The problems may not go away, but they are forgotten for a while.

There is always another visit to look forward to, a new hope in Mary's life, and the certainty that someone cares what happens to her. No wonder she thinks a lot of Dorothy, and in cold weather, even warms the cushions for the visitor's chair.

There are many Mary Xs (and John Xs for that matter) living



Hatfields

Colombo St. now has a booking system for this space. Anyone wishing to book time for football, tennis or volleyball, please contact the Centre. Anyone with ideas for using the space should try to come along to a meeting on June 12th, 6.30 pm at the Centre, or speak to Jim on 261 1658.

alone in Southwark, Bermondsey and Walworth. Perhaps they were never good at making friends, and now they've given up trying.

Clubs and Day Centres may have been suggested, but somehow it did not work out for them. Their very loneliness hides them from all except the doctors and social workers, who know nothing will change unless someone like Dorothy comes along. "Quite an ordinary person" - but a very special friend.

Could you be a friend to a John or Mary X? Or do you know anyone who could? It needs patience, tolerance, understanding and a little time, that's all. We don't ask you to take on their problems - there are professionals to do this - but just to provide the caring, friendly support that makes life seem worth living. We have been running the scheme for 6 years, and we know it works. Like to hear more? Write to Julia Birley Voluntary Help Organisation, Bethlem Royal Hospital, Monks Orchard Road, Beckenham, Kent. Or ring 777 6611 (daytime) or 693 2600 (evenings).

WRITE

to SE1. We want to hear your news and views. Send your letters to: SE1 Community Newspaper, 12 Maynard St, SE1, or give us a ring:

928 1643

Dear SE1,

We are a group of local people who have established a creche and tea bar at Guys Ante-natal Clinic for users of the clinic. We are volunteers, and at present need more members so that we can maintain a full service. We wonder if we may advertise this through SE1?

We provide a creche every weekday morning, from around 10am to noon, except Tuesday, when our session is from 1.30pm to 3.30pm. Most of us do one session per week i.e. about 2 hours.

Our purpose is to help make a visit to the Ante-natal clinic a more enjoyable time, by helping people relax. We do this by providing a creche and refreshments. We all seem to have a good time, but we do need more helpers. Most of us are mothers with small children of our own, whom we also bring to our session but anyone who feels they would like to help is welcome.

If you would like to help, please phone us on 407 1740 - we'd like to meet you!

yours,
Toddlers N Tea.

Dear SE1

Usually I read your paper without any of the adverse effects on my blood pressure which other papers have, but page 2 - "one of his shop assistants"! Really! This is a capitalistic, male chauvinist dismissal of someone. The lady probably has a very interesting history, views on SE1, views on the area, and she also has a name.

I won't go on because I'm sure you do really understand why it is an awful way to describe someone. The rest of the paper shows that you are still treating people as important, but there isn't room to slip at all in this respect. Apart from anything else, I need SE1 to be good so I can hand it to people from other areas as an excellent example of what a community newspaper can be like!

Best Wishes

Jenny Stiles.

SE1 accepts Jenny's criticism and apologises for any offence caused.

For the record, Doris Sangster is the shop assistant pictured in last month's Newagent of the Month. She lived all her life next door to the Tower Mini Market in Toolay St, until the grocers there was demolished. She now lives in Peckham.

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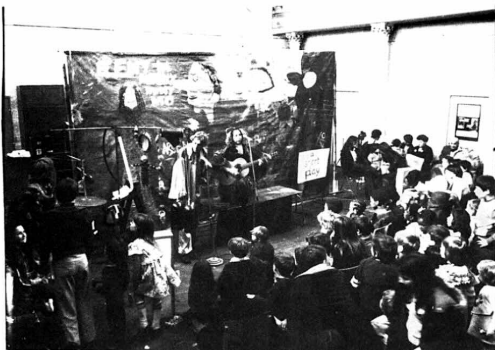
137 Southwark Bridge Road, SE1

REMEMBER THE BEGINNINGS

In 1971, on the initiative of John Richards, the neighbourhood worker at Blackfriars Settlement, local organisations professionally concerned with the Waterloo area (churches, schools, the local council and health services etc) formed a body called the 'Multi Service Group'. One of its first actions was to appoint a community worker, Jenny Stiles, whose job was to help those local residents who were trying to improve local life by organising local youth clubs, fighting for better housing conditions and so on. For a year, Jenny worked from a building in Morley Street which housed the Blackfriars Work Centre but both she and the local people with whom she was working were finding the lack of suitable rooms for holding meetings, playgroup sessions etc. a major problem. The situation came to a head in 1972 when the Work Centre was forced to move out of Morley Street to make way for redevelopment. An urgent search for a new building began...

WAC BOOKS IN AT THE LIBRARY

After a thorough investigation of all potential buildings the Multi-Service Group approached Lambeth Council about using the old public library in Lower Marsh. The library was still partially used to store rare books and theatrical props and it also housed the Street Market Inspector's office. It would also need some £16,000 spent on conversion work, but it was the only really suitable available place large enough to accommodate the Work Centre and rooms for general community use, accessible enough for the old and disabled, and in a prominent enough position to be an effective 'drop-in' advice centre. The Welfare Rights staff organised by students and local volunteers had, in fact, been operating from a site just in front of the old library for over a year by this time.



1977/3: "Volunteers, community workers and even casual visitors were roped in... the settlement was littered with foreign sleeping bags, while their owners wielded hammers and lavished paint in the new centre."

At this stage the support and energy of local councillors Peter Lane and Pam Verden and the encouragement of social services area co-ordinator Arthur Shriever proved decisive in persuading Lambeth Council to agree to the Multi-Service Group's request and to grant £6,000 towards the £16,000 required for repairs and conversion.

While Blackfriars Settlement frantically attempted to raise the rest of the money, work began on the old library. A settlement publication at the time records how "the ancient partitions were torn down and new walls erected where necessary. Volunteers, community workers and even casual visitors, were roped in to unload lorry loads of bricks, and the new internal layout of offices, neighbourhood and work rooms, coffee bar, lavatories and kitchen gradually became a reality. Kevin Prigmore's United Nations Association contacts came in useful and the settlement was littered with foreign sleeping bags, while their owners wielded hammers and lavished paint in the new centre.

By June 1973 the centre was ready to be used...



July 1977: A theatre group entertains children at a Jubilee party given by Waterloo Adventure Playground, at the Action Centre.

waterloo action centre

MOST PEOPLE IN THE SE1 AREA WILL HAVE HEARD OF THE WATERLOO ACTION CENTRE, AND MANY WILL HAVE USED ONE OR MORE OF ITS SERVICES. NOW, DUE TO INTEREST BEING SHOWN IN DEVELOPING THE SITE OF THE ACTION CENTRE FOR OFFICES, 'THE WAC' - AS ITS AFFECTIONATELY KNOWN - IS UNDER THREAT.

WORKING with GROUPS

Five full time and one half time community work staff are based at the Action Centre - although at the moment one of these posts is vacant while the Centre's management (see below) are looking for someone to replace the widely-respected and much-loved Howard Simmons. The work of the two Health Project workers, Jane and Frances, is described elsewhere in this issue. The other community work staff - Jenny, Elaine and Maureen - provide support

and assistance to existing community groups (such as Tenants Associations, Housing Co-operatives, social clubs etc.) and to individuals trying to start up such groups or putting on events like the annual Festival or holiday playschemes. As well as their personal support, they are able to offer the use of various duplicating, photocopying and typing facilities available in the Action Centre.



July 1978: angry tenants from Tanswell Estate confront GLC housing leader George Tremlett, in a meeting held at the WAC.

ANY QUESTIONS?

Perhaps the best known part of the Centre is its information and advice service which takes place in the shop-front every weekday from 10am to 2pm. Staffed by local volunteers who are trained and backed-up by the full-time workers, the information service gives advice on such matters as pensions, social security and other DHSS benefits, repairs, drains, street lighting, problems with fuel bills and disconnections, health and just about any other problem that you care to mention. It is open to all residents, workers and visitors to the area. If any matter needs professional legal advice, you will be referred to the legal advice service, staffed by volunteer lawyers - which operates at the Centre every Thursday evening. Both

the information and the legal advice services are free.

Local resident, Fred Miller, who is one of the volunteers manning the information service, told SE1 that the centre would welcome new people to come and help in the shop-front, even if you could spare only a couple of hours each week: "I retired 3 years ago, and decided I would like to use some of my time by helping. I came here as green as a cabbage, not knowing what I was letting myself into. I was surprised how quickly I was able to work alone on the shop-front, and when you leave at the end of the day you feel great satisfaction at being able to help people with problems who are unable to cope with them on their own."

Much of the community activity that has been made possible by workers and volunteers based in the Action Centre does not take place inside the Baylis Road building. It takes place in tenants' associations, in clubs, and in other community facilities, such as Waterloo Adventure Playground and the Colombo Street Sports and Community Centre, which WAC has helped to set up and support. Nevertheless in this feature

article we look at the Action Centre itself - how the building was acquired, what goes on inside it, and how it is managed. If you want to know more about any of the ACTION CENTRE projects, or feel able to help with any of them, please call in. It is run by and for local people, and there is always room for more people to be involved. In particular, the shop front advice centre badly needs people to help out.



May 1978: 'South Bank Clowns' use the Action Centre forecourt to show that even clowns oppose office development at Coin Street.

'I CALL IT A HAVEN'

At the back of the Action Centre building is a workshop where people with various disabilities meet every day; both a sort of social club and as members of a workshop producing plant pot stands, Christmas cards and several types of rug. Members are taught such skills as silk-screening, letterpress printing, weaving and woodwork. Judging by the following comments made by Work Centre members to SE1, the

project is a great success: "I have friends here and all the facilities I need," says Val. "When I get home I feel lost." "I come for friendship," says Mary. "It makes me feel young." "Without coming here I feel very tense. I smoked 30 cigarettes a day before" says Iris, while John commented: "I find it has such a relaxed atmosphere. I call it a haven." The Work Centre is open to disabled people of all ages and there is plenty of room for new members.



Sept. 1976: home helps throw a pensioners' party at WAC.

SOCIAL CLUBS

The Centre is also a meeting place for local social clubs. Youth clubs meet every Monday, Tuesday (teenagers) and Wednesday (younger kids) in the evening. A Pensioners' club meets every Monday afternoon, and another every Tuesday afternoon. If you are interested in joining either of these, all you have to do is contact local resident and volunteer organiser, Doreen Ramsey, via the Action Centre.

If you are an Old Age Pensioner then you may well be interested in the Luncheon Club which takes place in the Centre every weekday and which - thanks to a subsidy from Lambeth Social Services - is able to offer a 2 course meal (costing over £1 to prepare) for just 10p. Gladys, the Luncheon Club's organiser, told SE1: "The Club is open to any OAP living in the Waterloo area. The atmosphere is very friendly and welcoming, and we never had any troubles between people. Some members come with their friends, others come here very lonely and very depressed - but I stick them with the

right people and they soon get their self-confidence."

Members of the Disabled Work Centre (see below) can also join the Luncheon Club. I asked Martin what he liked about it: "Seeing a lot of different faces - and we start talking together. It's mixing company."

For people like Martin, the design of the building is very important. "It's all on the one level" says Gladys, "there are no steps or stairs and even a disabled person can walk about. The doors are wide enough for wheelchairs, so we don't have to turn anyone away." Gladys told SE1 that she can always make room for new members so if you are an OAP and would like a hot meal, a sweet, a cup of tea and some friendly company every weekday, then get in touch with the Action Centre.

Come and see us

There are many other uses to which the Action Centre building is put. Over 30 local groups use its meeting spaces. A regular programme of entertainments is put on during the winter months in the main hall by the local volunteer-run amenities group. These variety shows (often starring TV artists) receive financial subsidy from Lambeth Council. They are advertised by local posters and tickets can be bought at the Action Centre.

The main hall is also used for larger public meetings and various social occasions. Exhibitions and Jumble sales regularly take place both inside the building and on the forecourt in front, where the attention of casual passers-by can be attracted. A selection of books for borrowing (free) and second-hand books (for sale) are always available at the Centre. If you want to find out about the other activities that go on, visit the Centre between 10am and 2pm any weekday, and make use of the shop-front information service!

WHOSE CENTRE?

As you can see, the Centre is largely staffed by local volunteers. Last October it became totally independent from the Blackfriars Settlement and is now managed by a 'Project Committee' consisting of representatives of the volunteers involved in the Action Centre services, representatives of the paid staff and local ward councillors, and representatives of the local Neighbourhood Council: the Association of Waterloo Groups. (AWG is itself a body made up of representatives of local groups but which encourages individual members of the public to attend and to join in at its meetings. If you would like to come to the next AWG meeting, it will be held in the Action Centre at 7pm on Tuesday July 8th.) The Action Centre address is 14 Baylis Rd, SE1, telephone number 261 1404.

THE NEW MASTERS

AN AMAZING EXHIBITION IS NOW ON SHOW at St Matthews Church Hall in the New Kent Road. Four brothers, Bill, Alex, Francis and James Morey have splashed out £160 they can ill afford to show the people of SE1 their amazing talents.

The works include palet oils (on sale for UNICEF), canvases, sculptures, sketches and poetry. There are some six hundred works to be seen at your leisure and for free.

The 'Key Man' is a dimensional painting which incorporates both oil and sculpture and ironically it seems to communicate to the individual almost capable of a conversation. A self-portrait of Jimmy Morey as a non-paying guest of HM the Queen holds so much and one gets the impression that all time is lost as the grandfather clock is caught up in the spiders web suspended in time in the bars.

The 'Last Supper' is an epic. In itself it cheats christianity of its reverence but portrays not myth but reality with its hoard of tiny people robbing the banquet table. These are just three of the paintings that speak in silence summing up their lives in turn, then and now.

At St Matthews they feel that the hall could be the perfect base for their talents to be shared with the community. Bill, who worships in the chapel three times a week, burns with the enthusiasm of such a find and says 'I've no time for art college and books. Art is natural in everyone and only needs kindling. Give me a kid, or anyone for that matter, and I'll guarantee they will paint a high standard work after a very short period.' One gets the impression that this is no idle boast. 'I would like to get the kids away from the environment of crime and



to realise their potential. No school can give that individual attention. We can and will if given the opportunity."

DEMOLITION

St Matthews Hall is due for demolition. This is due to the fact that it has become an unenviable embarrassment to the church fathers because up till now it has found no useful purpose apart from the odd function and jumble sale. Maybe at last it has found its useful purpose.

The St Matthews exhibition opened in 28 May until 3rd of June, not enough time for the residents of SE1 to see these works of art and find out more about the ideas of this group of brothers. They are willing their work free and give advice to any interested party.

If you or your organisation is interested then get in touch with Mick Stapleton on 403 2684 daytime, or better, in the evening on 407 3949.

DOWN TO BREAD & WATER

The National Campaign against Social Security Cuts is protesting against the Social Security bills on June 16th, at Alexander Fleming House, Elephant & Castle, SE1, at 11am. The demonstration will take the form of a bread and water lunch to emphasise the level of poverty that this government is forcing us towards.

The Social Security bills, which are going through Parliament now, will mean less money for the most vulnerable members of our society: the old, the sick, single parents and the unemployed. Unless your income is as high as Maggie Thatcher's, the cuts will affect you.

Claimants Rights In Southwark (CRIS) is a member of this national campaign, and we will be meeting first at Wedge House at 10.30 to walk together to the Elephant. Don't miss it! See you there.

BUBBLE THEATRE

- refreshes the parks other theatres cannot reach!

The Bubble Theatre Company returns to Southwark this year with its yellow portable theatre for a week of performances in June. The familiar twin Tensi-Domes will appear beside the Imperial War Museum in Geraldine Mary Harmsworth Park on Sunday June 15th, and performances begin on Tuesday 17th June.

The company's visit will appeal to people who have never seen a Bubble show as well as to its many devotees. Drinks are served throughout evening performances, and a Bubble audience enjoys a sense of relaxation and an informality of atmosphere not normally found inside a conventional theatre building. A special feature this year is the opportunity for the audience to join the actors in dancing to the excellent live jazz written by Paul Abrahams for 'They Shoot Horses Don't They!'

'A Knight At The Bubble' can be seen on Tuesday 17th at 7.30pm and Wednesday 18th at 8.00pm, and 'They Shoot Horses' on Thursday 19th, Friday 20th and Saturday 21st at 8pm.

For 4-7 year olds there is 'Mario's Magnificent Marvels' on Thursday 19th at 2.30 and Saturday 21st at 2pm, and for 7-11 year olds 'Big Shot' on Saturday 21st at 4pm.

Drinkers in the Elephant and Castle pub can see the company performing 'The Five and a Half Labours of Arnold' on Monday night, June 16th in the pub. Tickets are obtainable from Southwark Entertainments, 28 Peckham Road, SE5. 703 2917

RESTORED TO HEALTH?

Area Health Authority restored to its powers!! Illegal Government Health Commissioners removed!! A rosy future for health services in the Lambeth, Southwark and Lewisham area?

It doesn't exactly look like it so far. Services at St. Olave's Hospital in Rotherhithe - suspended by the Commissioners - have still not been restored. While the Area Health Authority (AHA) goes on Talking, local health needs continue to go unmet. There isn't even talk about re-opening St. John's Hospital in Lewisham - but there is talk about wards being closed at the Belgrave Children Hospital, and St. Giles' in Camberwell - closures which will increase pressure on the remaining health services in the Area.

At the same time, while senior doctors are being bought off with big pay rises, nurses and other workers are being offered a maximum 14% rise - with inflation at nearly 23%. With many wards disgracefully

understaffed, this will increase the difficulty of recruiting health workers in inner London. The Government has imposed limits on Health spending that will mean fierce reductions in health services this year, unless the AHA again refuses to accept these limits. But it won't make such a stand unless huge pressure is brought to bear on it.

Meanwhile, an anonymous leaflet is being distributed in the St. Olave's area, attacking the local Community Health Council (CHC) and suggesting that it is using delaying tactics to prevent a new Health Centre being opened. In fact what the CHC is doing is to try and prevent a rush decision being made, without any form of consultation, by which St. Olave's would be turned into just a Health Centre, instead of having the full range of services restored. The CHC has called a Public Meeting on June 5th, and SE1 will report this meeting in the next issue.

TENANCY AGREEMENTS FOR EX-GLC TENANTS IN SOUTHWARK

A special meeting of the District Housing Committee on Tuesday 27th May to discuss LBS/GLC Tenancy Agreements and to make recommendations for a new Tenancy Agreement, bearing in mind the Housing Bill, 1980.

It was decided that where there is a difference between the current practice of the LBS and the GLC, the following areas of LBS practice should be retained, and the current GLC practice in these areas abandoned:

LBS current practice: explanation of tenure, alterations of rent, rent repayments and rent arrears, termination of tenancy, repairs to communal parts, estate inspections, succession of tenure, replacement of fittings, gardens and flower boxes, residence, lodgers, sub-letting, use of premises, alterations and additions, heating and hot water, trees, external decorations, window cleaning, refuse.

And that these areas of GLC practice should be retained: **GLC current practice:** variations of Tenancy Agreements, transfer to another dwelling, external and structural repairs, repairs to installations, other minor repairs, redecoration after structural damage, special cleansing after damage, repair of drains after misuse, conduct of children and visitors, obstructions of communal access.

Certain items were referred to the next District Housing Committee: rent repayments, rent arrears, repairs to communal parts, internal decoration (with special reference to spillage).

Other items awaited the resolution of the LBS caretaker system problems: caretaking service, cleaning service, estate cleaning.

Some items would have to be reviewed in the light of the Housing Bill 1980: security of tenure, lodgers, sub-letting. Riders were added to some items: termination of tenancy - 28 days notice to be given; vacation of premises - tenant should clear all rubbish and replace any original structure and fittings; period of repairs - definition of reasonable time to be 6 weeks maximum; external redecoration - to be a reasonable standard on a 5 year cycle basis.

On the vexed questions of Decs and Dogs, after long discussion it was agreed that the GLC practice was better than LBS and should be referred to the next District meeting. Some of the animalphobes wanted to include cats in LBS dog exclusions, but in the face of bureaucratic realities it was agreed to recommend a nonsense insertion in the LBS dog clause, that 'dogs' be deleted and replaced by 'animals which will cause nuisance'.

SKIN COMPLAINTS MEETING

The idea of having a meeting on skin complaints was suggested to the Health Project by Kath Savage. Kath had come across quite a number of friends and neighbours who either have skin complaints themselves or whose children have skin conditions, mainly eczema and psoriasis.

We contacted the Dermatology Department at St. Thomas' Hospital. Dr. Wilkinson, the Registrar, was very enthusiastic about the idea of a public meeting on skin and he referred us to a study of skin disorders in Lambeth (1976) which showed that skin complaints are quite prevalent in this area.

advertised

The meeting was advertised by distributing leaflets to local G.P. surgeries, health centres, Lambeth Group Practice, Princess Street Practice and Barley Mow Clinic. A leaflet was displayed in the local library and John Cribb put one on St. Thomas' notice board. Mary Anderson who helped to organise the meeting took some leaflets to her local church. Leaflets were mailed to the Association of Waterloo Groups, Blackfriars Health Education Unit and Morley College. And of course the meeting was advertised in SE1.

The meeting was held on 8th May at 7.30pm at the Waterloo Action Centre in the main hall - sixteen people in all came to the meeting. The speakers were Gill Sparrow, Dermatologist, David Burman, Psoriasis Association, Anne Orea, Eczema Society, Richard Stephens came from the South London Natural Health Centre, Judy Smith and John Cribb from the Health Project Steering Group, Kath Savage and Mary Anderson who helped to organise the meeting.

informal

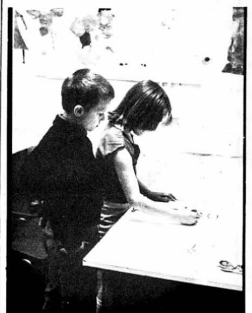
At the start of the meeting people were offered refreshments and chatted informally. Most people who came to the meeting were willing to share their experiences of skin conditions. Gill Sparrow, the dermatologist, spoke about misconceptions people have about skin disorders. The discussion revolved mainly around causes: hereditary; environment; diet; stress; treatment or lack of treatment; steroids; side effects and natural ointments. Feelings of stigma and the recognition of the importance of sharing experiences was expressed at the meeting and some people said they would be interested in forming a support group. There



WATERLOO CHILDRENS HEALTH CLUB

Our health club starts at 4 o'clock and we like this club very much and the helpers names are Lesley and Frances. The first thing we do is drawing and painting and its 5p to have orange juice and apple and we do cutting out and we do keeping fit classes and we go home and Lesley takes us across the road and into our flats and we say goodbye.

by Louise



We was meeting in a flat but now we meet in Waterloo Action Centre.

by John



I like the health club we draw pictures we eat apples and orange juice we meet at the flats and we come over to the club then we do exercises.

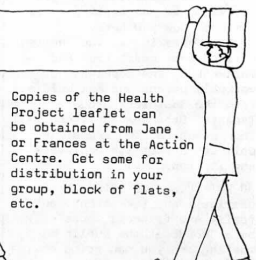
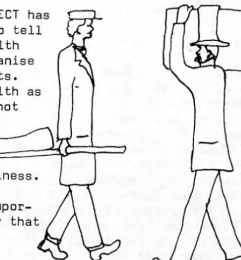
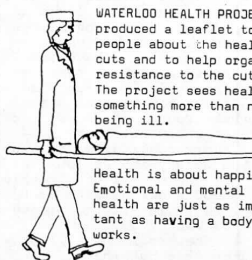
by Heidi Oliver



I very much like the Waterloo Health Club. As soon as we come in we do drawings and painting and sometimes write stories and then we do keep fit class and then we have apple and a drink of orange and then it will be time to go home. Lesley and Frances take us across the road into our flats and say goodbye.

by Allison

YOUR HEALTH MATTERS



WATERLOO HEALTH PROJECT has produced a leaflet to tell people about the health cuts and to help organise resistance to the cuts. The project sees health as something more than not being ill.

Health is about happiness. Emotional and mental health are just as important as having a body that works.

Copies of the Health Project leaflet can be obtained from Jane or Frances at the Action Centre. Get some for distribution in your group, block of flats, etc.

DON'T LET YOUR SERVICES BE CUT

What YOU can do

TALK to your friends and neighbours about the health cuts. GET copies of the Health Project leaflet and put them through the doors on your estate; take them to any meetings you attend, etc. BRING the question up in your Tenants Group meeting - get your group to organise a meeting on the estate about health cuts. LET the Community Health Council know of any changes in health services you hear about.

VIDEO

WATERLOO WOMEN'S GROUP have just completed a VIDEOTAPE about local people's views on general health and health facilities. If you would like to book the video for your group or for a meeting, please contact Rita Wood on 928 2756 or Jane Miller at Waterloo Action Centre on 261 1404. Someone from the group will come to show the video and to talk with you afterwards about the contents of the film.

TWO CHANCES

FOR YOU TO HELP IN THE FIGHT AGAINST THE CUTS

Is your life affected by the cuts in Public Services and the increases in the rates? Of course it is! Everyone is affected by these attacks on our living standards. And probably everyone is feeling angry and frustrated by the lack of opposition to these attacks so far in Southwark.

However, opposition is now beginning to grow, and this month brings two opportunities for Southwark people to help it to increase.

OPPORTUNITY NUMBER ONE: is also an opportunity for people to get together and enjoy themselves: a **MIDSUMMER DANCE** (to raise money for anti-Cuts work in Southwark) is to be held on **JUNE 21st** at the **BOROUGH COMMUNITY CENTRE**, in Southwark Bridge Road. Tickets cost £1.50 (75p for unemployed, pensioners and other claimants), and there will be a bar, live band and disco.

OPPORTUNITY NUMBER TWO is a chance for you to let John O'Grady, Leader of Southwark Council, know how the cuts feel from your point of view - and to hear him explain why the Council is making 5% cuts and raising rates by almost 50%. A **PUBLIC MEETING** is to be held on **FRIDAY, JULY 4TH**, at the **LOWER JUBILEE HALL, ROCKINGHAM ESTATE** (Elephant & Castle), at 7.30pm.

If Southwark leaders like John O'Grady are to get the message about public service cuts, it's important that you get along to the meeting to let him know how you feel.

Also speaking at the meeting will be Pete Coast from Southwark NALGO, the local authority worker's union; and Mel Wallis, from the Southwark Group of Tenants' Organisations, who will talk about how the Council's policies affect its employees and its tenants.

SO PUT THESE TWO DATES IN YOUR diaries - and take along your family and friends. There will be a **CRECHE** at the public meeting, so you can bring children along without worry.

RENTS FIT FOR A QUINN

THE 63 DWELLINGS AT COOPER CLOSE (formerly known as Quinn Buildings) on Waterloo Road are to be "let at not less than twice the normal rent, priority being given to tenants who will immediately be eligible to purchase when the Government's 'Right to Buy' proposals take effect".

This decision, taken by the GLC in May, shows their complete disregard for the overwhelming majority of Londoners who will never be able to raise anything like the amount of money required to buy one of the flats.

The Cooper Close buildings were completed and ready for use over one year ago but the County Hall Tories ordered them to be kept empty while they investigated the possibility of an 'equity sharing co-operative'. Even this scheme would have put the dwellings far beyond the reach of the many local people who had hoped to be rehoused in them.

You think all this disgraceful? Read on. Last year the GLC promised to build housing on a number of small sites in Southwark and then hand this new housing over to the council. This promise was made in order to persuade Southwark Council to accept the transfer of GLC estates to the Borough. Now GLC officers have been instructed to reduce the programme of promised developments by 63 units - on the grounds that the Cooper's Close flats are in Southwark and can be considered part of the promise (even though they will all be shortly in private hands).

IDEAS NEEDED

As exclusively revealed in Waterloo Woody's April column, the vacant site between Cornwall Road and Waterloo Road is going to be made available to the community, initially for two years. Finance for Industry, which owns the land, had wanted to build a multi-storey car park on it, next to their existing offices, but have been refused permission by Lambeth Council. So they are going to provide the site, and probably some finance too, to turn it into whatever the local community wants, such as a community garden, open air theatre or sports area etc.

But first people need to come forward with ideas of what it could be used for, and decide a plan. Sylvia New-Cafruny, whose original suggestion it was to get the land put to good use, at least temporarily, would like to hear from local people willing to be involved in some way. She can be contacted on 633 0033 during office hours, Tuesday to Thursday. Or contact Fred at the Waterloo Action Centre with your thoughts.

WATERLOO FESTIVAL

With only five weeks to go, preparations for this year's festival are well underway and it looks as though it will be bigger and better this year. The committee have managed to book 21 performers, this includes some old favourites such as the Young Uns as well as some new acts. Arrangements for stalls are also underway and it looks as if there will be a really good showing, with up to thirty in all and plenty of variety.

The programme will be on sale outside the Waterloo Action Centre before the festival and will also be available on the day. This year it will cost 15p with the added bonus of a lucky number. Several prizes are there to be won, so, if you buy a programme hang onto it as your number may come up.

Volunteers are always welcomed by the Festival committee to help out, especially on the day. If you want to enjoy the festival and help it to go well, why not get in touch with the staff at the Waterloo Action Centre as they will pass on any offers of help to the committee.

SEE YOU ON SUNDAY 13th JULY - HAPPY FESTIVAL!



WATERLOO WOODY

Last October my feathers got a little ruffled when Warren Newman MIPR, TWIN, CAM, TWIT, TWOO, TWADDLE suggested Southwark spend an extra £200,000 on improving its image. What, I reasoned, had Southwark's environment fund ever done to improve the nests of the borough? By the same token, what place could we air-borne residents expect in an advertising campaign?

Well, many of my feathered colleagues immediately pointed out the error of my reaction. What, they said, could be more bird-brained than proposing cuts in services to pay for advertising for the services being cut. Brilliant!

How right they were. Warren's now managed to get rid of several thousand pounds to a consultant ornithologist, to conduct a study into which species of bird most accurately represents the level of intelligence of Southwark Council.

It was clear from the start that the wisdom of wood-peckers would make any involvement from us an insult to our species.

Vultures would have fitted the bill, especially as, like Southwark's leading councillors, they're rarely seen in inner London. But the ornithologist said research had shown that for some reason vultures have a bad public image.

Pigeons would have been perfect in that they feed off other people and make a mess everywhere. But this time the ornithologist ruled that the 'pigeon lacks charisma'.

So the poor bird that you'll soon be seeing on everything the Council dabbles in - from dust carts to newspapers (Civic News is to be re-named 'The Leader's Droppings') - is a sparrow. But for God's sake, don't let on I told you. It's all very well dear old Warren deciding that having a sparrow as an emblem will improve Southwark's image - of course it will. But what's it going to do to the public image of the sparrow?

Suffice it to say that if Warren had wanted to pay a couple of thousand more and consulted me, I would have told him that, charisma or not, your pigeon is the bird for Southwark Council.

So from now on folks, as far as me and my friends at 'SE 1' are concerned, pigeons and Southwark are birds of a feather, linked claw to claw.

A scene from a previous festival

