

HOMELESS AT DAY CENTRE CHRISTMAS THREATENED

SE1 Meetings: January 12th & 22nd Copy Deadline January 22nd Paste-up: January 24th/25th Out January 30th, issue no.60

SEI AND

A unique project helping homeless people in SE 1 is itself threatened. with homelessness.

North Lambeth Day Centre, a unique project helping the homeless in SE 1, is itself threatened with homelessness.

, The Regional Health Authority intends to sell off the old hospital at Waterloo roundabout whose basement is given over to the project.

Mr.Danny Levine, director of the North Lambeth

Day Cenre said:

"Since the Regional
Health Authority has not
applied for permission to
change the use of the
hospital, it appears they
must be selling it for
private medicine. Yet the
Area Health Authority,
which supposedly opposes
private medicine has app
roved the sale. We are
relying on Lambeth Councillors who are members of
the authority to oppose
the sale."

Ironically, the eviction date has been set for December 23rd - just two days before Christmas. This is the season when such bodies as the Regional Health Authority - mindful of the plight in which the Virgin Mary found herself 2,000 years ago - traditionally make a show of helping the homeless.

Mr.Levine has approached the Authority to ask them how much the value of the hospital would be reduced

were it sold with the project still in occupation but they refuse even to discuss the matter.

Mr.Levine described the eviction date as totally unrealistic, and went on to say:

The building is being sold, probably for a private hospital, and the money just does not exist to replace the project's premises, either here or elsewhere in North Lambeth. The desire to obtain the maximum commercial price for the building could spell the end of a project which will serve 2000 single homeless people this year. - the numbers are increasing as unemployment rises and council house building cutbacks increase - especially more young people are becoming home-

Mr Levine was speaking on the eve of publication of a report, "A Place of Change", which describes the work of the North Lambeth Day Centre between March 1977 and March 1980. During that period over 3500 people used the Centre more than 24,000 times.

The NLDC caters for men and women of all ages who are sleeping rough on the streets or in derelict buildings, who are in common lodging houses, reception centres or other kinds of insecure or unstable accommodation.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE TWELVE



Members attend a group in Pottery - just one of the activities at NLDC.

UNION SHORT-CIRCUITS LABOUR DEMOCRACY

BERMONDSEY LABOUR PARTY MEMBERS ARE UP IN ARMS over alleged infiltration of the Party by the right-wing electrician's union, the EEPTU.

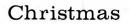
They fear a bid to grab control of the Party and dictate the choice of a new MP when Bob Mellish retires. In the past few weeks the Party has been flooded by eleven new affiliations from EETPU head office in the name of branches from all over London - though apparently without the consent or knowledge of some of the branches concerned.

Amongst those nominated are three well-known right-wing

Southwark Councillors: housing chairman Charles Sawyer who is a housing officer with Lewi-sham Council, Frank Brean who runs a chemist shop in Peckham, and Joe Lees.

The Bermondsey Party recently received a letter purporting to come from the London Electrical Engineering Staff Association (EESA) Branch of the EEPTU requesting affiliation and the appointment of a delegate - Mr.Charles Sawyer - to the Party's General Management Committee which selects the M.P.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE NINE, COLUMN ONE



Through The

Eyes of a Child

Spread throughout this issue of <u>SEl</u> are Christmas pictures drawn by pupils of Friars School, Webber Street, SEl.

Letters

Dear SEl,

I am writing about Hay's Wharf. I'd like to see more shops.. The Elephant is not good enough and the fare to Oxford St is too much.

I'd like to see housing, like there is on the old Queen's Buildings site (Scovell Road), little houses, a little bit of garden to sit out in or put your washing in. When you have lived in the area for years, they should give us the chance for better housing.

We want more jobs for local people. If you only want to work a few hours a day, it's not worth paying the fare to travel. Light industry would be good for the area. Why don't they put a bit of grass in the empty sites?

Yours sincerely (Name and address supplied)

Dear SE1.

Can you tell me if anyone has a plan for housing in Hay's Wharf? I am interested in that area. I would like to see houses, shopping facilities and jobs as well.

County Hall and Southwark Council are only interested in large office blocks and they only make jobs for commuters. not for the local people. The area has been running down for some years. Why haven't they been doing something about it before this? They can't blame people for moving out of the area if there are no jobs and no houses. They are closing down Courage's , the brewery. We want more jobs for the local people, and proper housing and shopping facilities. I would also like to see nursery schools as I don't think there are enough in the area.

I have seen the exhibition of the office plans, but I would like to see an exhibition of plans for housing.

Yours sincerely Isobel Bowie Dorking House, Tabard St,

I would like SEl to ask Peter Tatchell (see 'Soapbox', Issue 56) why any of our tenants should join the Labour

Our committee has asked our local councillors many times to attend our meetings to help us with our problems but they don't want to know.

I suppose the only time we will ever see them is election time.

With thanks, Ms Chubb Southey House, Browning St Dear SEl,

I am a single mother with three kids. They go to school in Southwark.. They get free meals, free clothing allowance and free milk. I get £44.60 a week. I pay out £2 a week in fares for one child and I pay £7.33 rent. So I have only got £35 to cover fuel bills, clothes, furnishing and food for four people.

I have read the article about education cuts in SE1 last month and I don't know what I would do with no school meals, clothing or milk. I go to reading and writing classes myself. I wouldn't know what to do if they closed.

Yours sincerely, Cathleen Peirce Woodene, Acorn Estate, SE15.

I read with interest the article by Peter Tatchall in the

Aug/Sept. issue when he invited us all to join the Labour Party. I myself have always been Labour, my parents always drummed Labour into me, its a working class party they said.

last issue as indeed I read the

And a lot of people have in the past voted for them for this reason, but lately they have

Now could we ask Mr Tatchall to write an article on what he and the Labour Party intend to do about the Municipal Muggers who run our council which has been Labour for years.

They cannot continue to dip into the public pockets. Councils, like me and a lot of other people cannot spend money they don't have.

My income and other peoples incomes has not increased over the last year so why should theirs.

If we have to bear with so many cuts, why do they want to increase rent and rates.

With so many cuts we are going to be living in slums, Mr Tatchall himself lives on a large estate where there are many problems. So the next article he writes for SE1, lets have some true facts - what the Labour Party is going to do about these Municipal Muggers and what we can expect from the

Labour Party in future. Our local councillor Alan Davies has attended every one of Rd; our T.A. meetings and has given a lot of help and we would like to thank him for the extra time he has put in on the ex-GLC estates venture.

with thanks

L.SMITH 12 Dauncey House Webber Row

Dear SE1,

We, the Webber Row Tenants Association, have noted with concern the way in which the newspaper is being used.

What we mean is, the articles that are highlighted in the paper are aligned to one political party.

On the heading of the newspaper it states that it is a community newspaper. Now if this is the case it should be remembered that there are people who live and work in this community who are of different political persuasion.

Surely, if it is a community newspaper, it should be trying to embrace the whole community and by allowing it to be seen to be aligne to one side of politics it will only end up by being rejceted by the other.

We feel that we should not be expected to pay to read in a community newspaper articles written by political activists (who have their own media and distribution service), not worried about the real plight of the community but hell bent on using whatever means they can find to further their political ambitions. Especially getting front page coverage and not having to pay a penny for

We, the Webber Row Tenants Association, register our conbeen moving away from this idea. cern about the way in which the newspaper is being used.

Yours faithfully, T.A. Rvan Secretary, W.R.T.A. 11 Dauncy House, Webber Row

Dear SE1.

We are holding a Christmas Party for the children on the estate on 13th Dec. Like most Associations we are short of funds and we would like to make an appeal through your paper for donations and any help anyone would like to offer.

Also, if possible, we would like to thank the following in the paper for the gifts or donations they have promised: Express Dairy, Webber St; Gladding Construction, Webber

Dell's Newsagent, Waterloo Rd: Letraset, Waterloo Rd: George's Stores, Waterloo Rd; George's Cafe, Waterloo Rd; Mini-Dicta Machines, Waterloo

Wyse Dental Surgery, Waterloo Rd: Anjay Shopfitter, Waterloo Rd: Pollock & Searby, Webber St;

Blackfriars Settlement, Nelson Square.

Yours faithfully L. Smith Webber Row Tenants Association, 12 Dauncy House, Webber Row, SE1.

SE₁ REPLIES

We're delighted to receive so many letters discussing points which have been raised in previous issues (see page 2).

The letters from Mr. Smith As. Chubb are perhaps not entirely fair to Mr. Tatchell and his 'Soap Box' article. After all it is Mr. Tatchell who, as secretary of Bermondsey Labour Party, is leading the attempt to kick out the "Municipal Muggers" of Southwark Council detested by Mr.Smith (and the vast magority of other Bermondsey residents).

But if Mr. Tatchell has been hard done by - that's too bad. He can write to us and say so and we will print his letter. just as we have printed all the letters we have received this

Debate and disagreement can only be good for the paper.

CONCERN

However, we are more concer-ned about the letter from Mr. Ryan, secretary of Webber Row tenants' association. He appears to be saying that not only does he disagree with such articles. He doesn't want then to be printed at all!

Unfortunately Mr Ryan is not as staightforward in his criticisms as Mr. Smith and Ms. Chubb. He does not say which articles he would have us censor.

So our response will have to general:

(1) Soap Box is a series started to enable individuals to air personal views. The first contributor was a local vicar talking about the importance of Christianity. The articles do not reflect 'editorial policy'.

(2) Editorial decisions are taken at twice-monthly meetings open to all SE 1 residents and advertised in the paper (see p5).

(3) The heading "community newspaper" means that the paper belongs to the community and not an editorial group. In the past years we have printed many articles which the editorial group disagreed with. Why?- because the articles came from groups or individuals in the community.

(4) A "community newspaper" is a paper concerned about the community. It therefore reflects the concerns of the community. For example, the plans to build offices at Coin Street and Hays Wharf will lead to the destruction of our community. Cuts in social security benefits will face pensioners in our community with a choice between eating and heating. Would Mr.Ryan have us reject articles on these topics because they are too "political"?

So, come on Mr. Ryan. We really do welcome your interest in the paper. But don't sit back and gripe at things other people are saying.

Write articles yourself. Come to our meetings.

Golden Oldy

Concerning things in Lambeth everything which I say is true. This is a small article I'm writing for SEl paper.

My Mum and Dad and all ten kids lived at 50 Ethelm St and things were very hard.

My Dad worked as a carman driving horses and a van.

Boy, that was the street, they were the salt of the earth, those people. You never knew what it was to lock your door, a string in the letter box day and night. Summertime doors open all day and people sitting on the doorstep having a chat or a bit of bread and cheese or a piece of cold lamb. A breast of lamb was 21d from Skiffingtons and I was sent back to the shop to change it if it was too fat.

My Dad's wages were poor and to make ends meet my mum took in Box making and most of us girls, the eldest of course, were shown how to corner up the

pawning the sheets

I've seen my Mum wash the sheets Monday morning and pawn them before the shop shut.

My Mum had a woman for 2d who she called a Runner. Her name was Mrs Stacy and she lived opposite in Ethelm St.

Sometimes at the weekend, being the eldest, I had to go to the money lender at no. 52 to borrow and get the sheets out of pawn - and my Dad's suit. They were tied up with a bit of string and put on the rack back again on Monday morning. When my Mum was docked on the clothes she used to get mad.

Murrays

Announce the opening of their office at 94-96 Walworth Road London SE17 6SW 703-9196

Mon, Tues, Wed&Fri 9.30-5.30 Thursdays 9.30-7.30 9.30-12-30



from

TANSWELL Mother & Toddler Drop-in

TUESDAYS 10am - 12 noon THURSDAYS 1pm - 4pm

4. SANTLEY HOUSE FRAZIER STREET? SEL



It was a good street and for 1d you could get gas and a little bit of sugar and tea till my Mum got her wages off my Dad.

We had Georges on the corner of Cornwall Road and many a time 1d Tatters and Stuffing and 1d Baked Plum.

I'm nearly 74 years old and I picked up the plates in the same Pie Shop next to the Windmill pub now but the name then was C. Marris.

Zeppelin down

On the corner of Waterloo Road where the Vic is now was a restaurant called Pearce & Plentys. And I worked before I was 14 years old for Mr & Mrs Buchanan Sunday morning selling childrens clothing for 4 shillings to help my Mum.. Post Office and Grocers next door. I've been writing a book for a long time but you must try and concentrate on things that really did happen. I remember when the Zeppelin was burnt down at Cuffly. I'd just been bath in the copper, and sister Kitty just standing on a chair to the copper and nieghbours calling out: Come out Bessie, we all will be burnt

My mother's name was Bessie Porter, my single name Annie Jane.

Mrs A.J. Noseda

Over 7500 homes in the

half of these are Council

properties, and Southwark

These are the findings

Council could be losing

half a million pounds a

of a report, 'Empty Prop-

lished today by the Hous-

erty in Southwark', pub-

ing Interest Group - a

forum for local bodies

concerned about housing

problems in the borough.

The report urges the

Council to take action by

appointing someone to work

with short-life housing

groups and to track down

some of the 'lost' empty

scheme should also be int-

roduced to make unpopular

Increased pressure

should be put on private

the Group, - one in seven

landlords, according to

falts available to more

people in need.

properties. A special

year as a result.

7500 EMPTY HOMES

London Borough of Southwark on a national scale, the

are standing empty. Almost report concludes, to inc-

Pensioners Take Action

On Friday, 14th November the and gave full support to the official, launching of the South-Southwark Pensioners Action Group (SPAG) was launched. At a wark Pensioners Action Group. packed meeting held at Havil Hall The Declaration of Intent adop-Jack Jones, President TGWU ted at the National Convention Retired Members Association told Southwark Pensioners that they must join together to fight for a decent pension and substantial increases in the fuel allowance for all pensioners this winter. Olly Hollingsworth of Tooting Action for Pensioners (TAP) gave very practical advice for a new group starting up. She went on to list the successes that TAP has achieved in their fight for Pensioner's rights.

The pensioners reacted enthusiastically to the two speakers



The Government must act

rease the funds available

to councils and housing

Frances Sullivan 231 2472

1979 was endorsed and the group was given the mandate to work on the list of concerns of Southwark Pensioners. WORKING GROUP From this meeting a Working Group was formed and met the following Tuesday at St Giles Centre, Camberwell Church Street. Mr Gibson and Mrs Brett were nominated as the Group's delegates to the National Convention Mr Chapple, Mrs Cox, Mr Morris

to introduce the Group and hopefully to rally their support for SRAG's future endeavours. Since this first meeting, SPAG has been successful in resolving two fuel problems and has participated in a demonstration in front of the L.E.B. in Walworth

and Mrs Dodds will meet this

week with the South London Press

Road urging no cut-offs for pensioners. The next meeting of SPAG will be Tuesday 2nd December at 10am at St. Giles Centre. All pensioners are welcome. For further information phone 928 9521.

GUYS DISTRICT Community Health Council

wishes all SEl readers a very happy Christmas and looks to you to help us keep watch over

Francis House. Kings Head Yard Borough High St.

our NHS in the New Year

associations. This is essential in order to tackle the problem of disrepair and unfitness in the private sector which is keeping housing empty. For further information please contact: Andrew Benson 701 2209 Tel:403 3012 Ed Duguid

> "your local pub" THE LORD CLYDE THE BOROUGH

> > TRUMANS BEER Merry Xmas from

Dennis, Molly, Michael, Lucy

Hot & Cold Food

407-3397

The party is to be held on 20th December at the Centre, and any offers of help and donations of non-perishable food would be greatly appreciated. Contact Jim or Bob on 261 1658, or drop in and see them during the week.

ALBERT FC SENDS XMAS GREETINGS 2 S.E.I.

Dacre rark was entirely

against a weak team we

failed to take full ad-

different. Again playing

having 90% of the game we

only won 3-1. This was

as St Georges had put 18 goals past them 2 weeks

Intermediate Cup tie

Our next game was an

against Lewisham Athletic

at Blackheath. Albert got

off to a fine start play-

ing some good attacking

football and it was not

surprising that we took

the lead midway through

ner. The start of the

the first half when Fitz-

simons scored from a cor-

second half was disastrous

as Albert made 2 blunders

in defence in the first 10

minutes allowing Lewisham

team's heads dropped when

Lewisham increased their

lead to 3-1. There was a

glimmer of hope when Steve

Doyle scored for Albert

but they had left it too

back. Another setback was

the discovery afterwards

ed a bone in his ankle.

So ended our Cup bid -

that Dean Scott had crack-

late to stage any come-

to take a 2-1 lead. The

previously.

We are now well into the season having played 7 league games of which we have won 4 and drawn 3 and although we are not top of our division we are next best. The top spot being occupied by St. Georges. On 2 November we played

old cup rivals, Marlborough, and after a goalless failed to take full a first half in which Albert vantage and although did all the attacking we deservedly went into the lead early in the second half through a goal by Barry Fitzsimons. Then after several near misses John Terrey scored making it 2 - nil. For some reason the team seemed to slacken and Marlborough took advantage of this forcing goalkeeper Ray Woodcock to pull off a string of fine saves. But the pressure paid off for Marlborough and they managed to score twice making the final score 2-2.

The next game was against Pace F.C. of whom we knew nothing except that St Georges beat them 2-0. We managed to put 12 past them in a display of football that was at times breathtaking.

Our next game against

now we must concentrate all our efforts on winning our division. I am pleased to announ-

ce that the Club is holding a CHRISTMAS DISCO at PARIS GARDENS SOCIAL CLUB on 20th DECEMBER. Tickets priced £2.50 are obtainable from the Prince Albert. The buffet is free and I suggest that people wanting tickets should buy them straight away as only a limited number are on particularly disappointing

> Finally the players and myself would like to wish all SEl readers a very happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

> > S. Ellerington Manager/Secretary



WATERLOO AMENITIES

WISH ALL THEIR FRIENDS
A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

FRIDAY 23RD JANUARY at 7.30pm: CABARET ACT

AND IN FEBRUARY (date to be decided on)

"Sound of Music"

THE PROJECT IS

INVOLVED IN SMALL

GROUP WORK, YOUTH CLUBS,

THE YOUNG UNEMPLOYED.

FOR INFO. CONTACT GEOFF OR STELLA - 633 0383

GIRLS WORK, AND WORK WITH

FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS:

ALSO: ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND GROUP'S CARTOON SHOW FOR CHILDREN: December 13th: Check with Waterloo Action Centre for details.

In conjunction with Lambeth Amenities.

WATERLOO ACTION CENTRE, 14 BAYLIS RD., SE 1 - 261 1404

PICKWICK YOUTH &

COMMUNITY CENTRE

at 1 RUSHWORTH STREET, S.E.1.

SENDS SEASONAL GREETINGS

BILLY BURDEN & LESTER FERGUSON Merry Xmas and a Healthy New Year



WOMENS HEALTH GROUP: 3rd Thursday in the month at 7.30pm at W.A.C.

RELAXATION & EXERCISE CLASS. Morley College, Fridays 10.30 - 12.00 noon.

CHILDRENS HEALTH CLUB: every Wednesday, 4.00pm at No.4 Santley House.

YOGA CLASS at Colombo Street Sports Centre: Beginners Tuesdays 6.15-8.00pm

Intermediate Wednesdays 6.30 - 8.00

ANTE-NATAL CLUB: every Monday, 2pm at Barley Mow Clinic, Frazier St

WATERLOO ACTION CENTRE, 14 BAYLIS RD., SE 1 - 261 1404

to all LOCAL RESIDENTS MEMBERS and FRIENDS Support Your Local Shop 7pm SATURDAY,

· fresh milk deily

newspapers confectioners & tobacconists · all groceries & provisions * hot snacks, rolls and sandwiches

Merry Christmas wines, spirits & beers from Glyn & Lynne (TOMS) from Glyn & Lynne (TOMS)

To All 137 Southwark Bridge Road, SE1

North Southwark Community Development Group

MELODY

MAKER SITE~

HOMES

OR PARKS?

It was revealed at a meeting

at the Colombo Street Centre on

27th November that there were 3

year old plans for housing on

the site to be shortly vacated

by Melody Maker, but that South-

wark Council reckon that there

is no money available for this.

cheaper, and with road closures

in Hatfields and Paris Gardens,

Play area with Christchurch

Centre.

this could link up the Hatfields

Gardens and Colombo St. Sports

However, these proposals

fic diverted along Roupell St

from Hatfields, in the view of

local residents. However,

Southwark Council have not

proposed road closures.

studied the affects of these

The associated developments

on the rest of the site, (owned

by a property development comp-

House) are also controversial.

industry space and more offices

This is against local planning

guidelines, and would mean few

people. So it is not clear

whether the advantage of new

open space would balance the

lack of jobs and traffic prob-

of more local housing. There

the open space, anyway!

jobs would be created for local

They would provide less light

any shortly to be vacated by

IPC (at the rear of Dorset

could cause problems with traf-

The site is now zoned as open

space, which is obviously

'REJECT THE COUNCIL'S LOCAL PLAN

LET US PLAN OUR AREA

OPTIONS REPORT

Chairperson Ted Bowman

Secretary Sue Murray

MUSIC IN LAMBETH

There will be a concert by the Lambeth Orchestra conducted by David Paul Cathcart, on Saturday 13th December, at Holy Trinity Church, Clapham Common:

Rossini Overtures: Thieving Magpie; Semiramide; William Tell; Italian Girl in Algiers.

Verdi Overtures: I Vespri Siciliani Force of Destiny and Preludes: Acts 1 &3 Traviata.

Tickets £1.30.



STREET

There is an empty sate behind the houses on the south side of Aquinas St (off Stamford St). This land is public land, owned by the GLC and they may be thinking of selling it. Some local residents have already suggested family housing on the site.

Plans have been drawn up for 13 homes and can be seen at the Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road. These houses would be a co-operative and for local people in need.

Perhaps you have other ideas for the land? If you do then drop a note into the Action Centre. A steering group of than are on the site at present. representatives of local tenants and residents organisations has been formed. When more suggestions have been received a leaflet will be sent to all local people and a public

meeting arranged. Have your say now - don't lems, and the missed opportunity wait for a developer to grab it and put something there that may not be any money to lay out you don't want.

Southwark **Planners** Do It AGAIN!

Members of Community

Panels (the Council's CONsultation committees with the "community") have recently received the latest "Draft Written Statement" on the North Southwark District Plan. The lucky ones have had ten days to read, understand and consult with their organisations over this 192 page document with 4 maps before being expected to discuss it with the Council. Others received it only TWO DAYS before the meeting because the postmen had difficulty getting it through their letterboxes!

This is yet another chapter in the farce of what Southwark's Planning Department calls consultation. Angry Cathedral Community Panel representatives voted to defer discussion until January because they hadn't had enough time to consider this great lump of tree. But the Community Panel discussion isn't supposed

to be formal consultation that doesn't take place until next April. The Cathedral Panel also demanded a longer period of consultation at that time. The 6 weeks allowed to make formal representations to the then "amended draft" is again totally inadequate for groups to meet, discuss and respond to the

Tenants Associations and other organisations in North Southwark have spent a lot of time and energy drawing up their views on the plan during the last four years only for them to be ignored by decisions like the offices on Hav's Wharf as well as by the council's various reports on the plan. This latest development is another episode in that disgusting history.

IN THE DOCK

On Nov 3 Bob ("we'll work with anybody who's got money") Maxwell. S'wark's Director of Development held a Press preview on the developers' latest proposal for Surrey Docks.

Meanwhile S'wark Trades Council set up a Counter-Exhibition on the floor below in the same Hall. It was announced upstairs by a shower of leaflets from community representatives.

Political?!

The Trades Council exhibition was originally refused space because it was 'political'. (The developers' exhibition wasn't?!).

Later the Council told 'SE1' this wasn't true - there simply wasn't a spare room.

It was this that turned out to be not true and after phone calls from 2 councillors the Trades Council were allowed in.

The developers' proposals largely consist of hypermarkets, offices, trade marts and hotels along with some industry, housing and leisure facilities to appease the local population. ASDA, the one exception, includes Science and Technology Parks, a Polytechnic and other

educational establishments. Devastating report

Joint Docklands Action Group have published a devastating report analysing the developers' own report on the proposals.

The developers admit that the huge shopping centres will decimate existing local shopping centres - one estimated that ONE THIRD of the trade of local shops would be taken

Also, the GLC admits that the traffic generated by the proposals will cause intolerable congestion in surrounding roads.

A big question mark hangs over whether the schemes are financially sound. One developer is honest enough to admit that their scheme is not viable without the Jubilee Line which has now been cut as well as the hated Southern Relief Road. Previous private development proposals such as Trammel Crow have hit the rocks and there's every chance the present "Gang of Four's" scheme will do the

72nd N & C LAMBETH SCOUT GROUP WISH

SEASONAL GREETINGS TO ALL OUR FRIENDS

Heedquarters at: 39 CORNWALL RD SEI 928 2675

SOUTH BANK

SE1 TAKES A LOOK AT WHAT SANTA HAS IN HIS SACK FOR THE RIVERSIDE

SOUTH BANK. WHY ?

This former gasworks site A 250,000 square feet was bought by the Government's Property Services Agency which planned to house up to 7,000 civil servants in a massive office complex. Michael Heseltine chose it as the first piece of government owned land he wished to sell. Earlier this year it was sold to a Mr Ronald Lyons acting on behalf of an Arab-owned company called Arunbridge. During the 1974 property collapse Mr Lyons had gone bankrupt 4. BELVEDERE RD CAR PARK leaving behind him debts of some £52 million. Arunbridge formed a special company called Effra to develop the site and this company recently submitted a planning application to Lambeth Council for two office blocks, one of 12 storeys and the other of 21 storeys, with 400,000 square feet of offices, 144 private flats, shops, squash courts and a swimming pool. The application is still being considered by Lambeth Council. Meanwhile, a fortnight ago, the Commons Public Accounts Committee found that the Government had lost £4.1 million through its involvement in this

2. GREEN GIANT

site.

Land Securities, the country's biggest property company, bought this 2.6 acre site some 20 years At the height of the 1973 property boom it was worth several million pounds but in 1977, doubtful that permission would ever be given for a large commercial development, Land Securities offered it to the "highest bidder over £1". It was snapped up at a phenomenally low price (£408,000) by European Ferries whose boss is Tory MP Keith Wickenden. He commissioned architect Abbott Howard to design a 500 foot tower of tinted glass containing 370,000 square feet of offices as well as exhibition and shopping space and private flats. With the exception of the architectural profession, the scheme attracted loud and widespread hostility during last year's public The 'Green Giant was refused planning permission at the same time as the Coin Street decision was announced. Michael Heseltine had bowed to public pressure and found it "too massive and overbearing". Lambeth Council is currently preparing a Design Brief for the site and European Ferries are

office headquarters for the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organisation (supposedly related to the United Nations) is currently ris ing where once stood Doulton House - one of the few interesting buildings on the Albert Embankment. The project is being supervised by the Government's Property Services Agency.

Eyebrows were raised a couple of weeks ago when Lambeth Council received a planning application from Samuel Properties to build 200 private flats, a restaurant and shops or the car park site between the Jubilee Park and Hungerford Railway Bridge The site is owned by the GLC. The application is currently being examined by both Lambeth Council and the GLC. For County Hall it poses a problem: since the GLC has opposed public housing on the Coi Street sites, how can it justify allowing private flats on this nearby site both sites being on the riverside, near Waterloo Station and in GLC

5. IBM

In 1975 Reuters was given permission to build a 240,000 square feet office headquarters on this former DAILY MAIL printing works site. In addition they were to provide shops a restaurant and 22 flats for local authority use as 'planning gain'. However, they never developed the site and sold it to IBM (the computer firm) in 1979. IBM managed to in crease the amount of office floorspace to 300,000 square feet while dropping the flats, restaurant and shops from the scheme. Not for the first time the illusory nature of 'planning gains' was demonstrated. IBM's headquarters are now under construction

6. COIN ST AREA

In July this year Michael Heseltine rejected all the office schemes and

IN FEBRUARY THIS YEAR THE GOVERNMENT'S OWN PROPERTY ADVISORY GROUP (A COMMITTEE O ESTATE AGENTS & FINANCIERS) PUBLISHED A REPORT SAYING THAT THERE WAS LITTLE NEED FOR ERESH OFFICE DEVELOPMENT. THE REPORT WAS WIDELY SEEN AS CONFIRMING THE PIONEERING EVIDENCE PRODUCED FOR THE COIN STREET PUBLIC INQUIRY BY THE ASSOCIATION OF WATERLOO GROUPS AND THE COIN STREET ACTION GROUP. SINCE THEN A NUMBER OF INDEPENDENT RESEARCHERS HAVE REACHED THE SAME CONCLUSION: BY THE 1990s WE WILL HAVE MANY MORE OFFICES IN CENTRAL LONDON THAN FIRMS TO FILL THEM. BUT DESPITE THIS. AS THE ARTICLE ON THIS PAGE SHOWS. THERE ARE MORE PROPERTY SPECULATORS THAN EVER BEFORE

TRYING TO GET PLANNING PERMISSIONS FOR VAST NEW OFFICE BLOCKS ON THE

The answer is that there are several different types of 'demand' for offices. The first is demand by firms employing office workers. Here the evidence is clear: there will be an overall reduction in the number of people doing office work because of the economic recession and, more significantly, the introduction of 'chip' technology which is expected to reduce office staffing by 20% over the next 10-15 years; microfilming of records and the reduction in the size of computers and other office equipment will reduce office floorspace needs; and the decentralisation of office operations will mean that demand for offices in Central London will fall faster than elsewhere. (Firms have been moving their office operations to the suburbs partly because rent and rates are cheaper but, more significantly because of the difficulty of persuading enough staff to commute in. This difficulty will increase as transport costs rise and workers have greater opportunities to find employment in suburban offices. 'Electronic mail' will make it easier to carry out office operations from suburban locations).

But if there will be less demand from firms, there is still considerable demand from those who profit from the development process: architects, surveyors, valuers, building firms and the 'Developers' who co-ordinate These people can get lucrative contracts even if the end-product is not needed. Also there are the land-owners who can find the value of their land increased five-fold overnight as a result of an office planning permission. The reason these people can profit even if a development remains empty is that normally they do not gamble with their own money but ours - via Pension Funds and Insurance companies These large financial institutions are behind nearly all major office developments and at present they have more money than they know what to do with. Thus, in 1978, they had some £7½ billion to invest (& assets worth over £70 billion). With such phenomenal amounts of money they could have prevented the slump in British manufacturing industry but they are seeking more lucrative (so they think) investment in property and overseas. It is this pressure from funds seeking property schemes that is fuelling the current rash of office applications for the South Bank and other 'city fringe' areas such as Spitalfields. And with the Secretary of State (Michael Heseltine) and the Leader of the GLC (Horace Cutler) both being millionaires from property development it is not hard to understand why the speculators are so busy now - even though we need them less than ever.

all the housing schemes considered during the six-month Public Inquiry last year. Widely seem as one of the most important town planning inquiries ever to be held in this country, the Coin Street Inquiry produced evidence that may well change the direction of development

in London. However, as far as the 16-acre Coin Street sites are concerned Heseltine's decision was very vague: he wanted a "comprehensively planned development involving a mixture of land uses, including commercial and residential development and leisure facilities... a substantial residential component among the mix of uses is essential to restore the area's vitality and strengthen the local community". The key question about the balance between the var ious uses was not answered and is likely to be fought out at another Public Inquiry. Meanwhile, the GLC Tories are trying to sell off the publiclyowned land before next May's County Hall elections: two of the competing office speculators have formed a joint company (Grevcoat Commercial and are preparing a slightly scaled-down office scheme (1.1 million square feet of offices rather than 1.3 million square feet); Lambeth Council are carrying out studies and consultations to allow it to prepare a comprehensive planning brief for all the sites; and the Association of Waterloo Groups is also preparing a new planning application. One encouraging sign is the ever increasing support being offered to the local community from 'outside' organisations and individuals. Clearly this is one fight the property

speculators are going to regret ever starting. 7. KING'S REACH

In 1969 the Secretary of State approved the 'King's Reach development' after a Public Inquiry during which IPC had claimed it needed to regroup its operations around its "Dorset House Headquarters". Permission was given on condition that the IPC tower was not occupied until the private flats and the hotel had been completed. However, the following year condition was waived

- the 'hotel' remains a vacant shell to this day. In 1978 the GLC gave permission to Sea Containers to convert 106,000 square feet of this shell into offices on condition that they did not occupy their new headquarters until the rest of the building was ready for use as a hotel. A few months later this condition was waived against the officers' advice after Sandy Sandford (GLC Committee Chairman) had met with the President of Sea Containers. In March this year Sea Containers announced that it was stopping all work on the hotel. The following month the GLC gave them permission to convert more of the 'hotel' into offices. Meanwhile IPC has been moving its Dorset House staff down to Sutton. Some of these staff feel that IPC is more interested in property development than oublishing.

8. BANKSIDE POWER STATION The C.E.G.B. have just announced that the power station will close in a couple of years. Michael Heseltine has recently listed the Battersea power station upstream and there is talk that Bankside may also be listed. Southwark Council officers have already visited the site and there talk about the possibility of converting it to a leisure centre - however there are not definite plans yet.

9. EMERSON ST/PARK ST

In 1977 the GLC produced a planning brief for this 3.5 acre site which is owned jointly by the C.E.G.B., the Freshwater Property Company and Southwark Council. The brief specified residential development. However Southwark Council turned down the North Southwark Community Development Group's application to build 42 homes on the site because it "didn't take sufficient advantage of the riverside site" and

"would lead to the introduction of families into the area". NSCDG appealed against this decision but, after a Public Inquiry last year, Heseltine backed the Council. Southwark Council is currently working up a scheme with Derno Estates which would include about 100,000 square feet of offices and a replica of the Globe Theatre. How this squares with Southwark Labour Group's decision (taken while waiting for the result of the Inquiry) to support in principle the idea of family housing on Bankside is not clear. NSCDG has prepared a new application for houses on this site.

10. LAING'S Laing's 1974 application

to build offices on this site was supported by Southwark Council but opposed by the (then) Labour GLC. After a Public Inquiry, the Secretary of State (Peter Shore) announced that he was granting permission so that "early development" would take place. That was 1976. Not a brick has been laid - nor concrete for that mattersince that time. The permission is for some 200,000 square feet of offices and space for the Council to build flats. The site remains blighted.

11. ST MARY OVERY WHARF

A few weeks ago European Ferries (the 'Green Giant' people) had its application to build 85,000 square feet of offices, a museum including a dock for the 'Discovery', shops and private flats turned down by the GLC. The refusal came because the scheme would have involved the demolition of a building listed for its historical and architectural interest. However European Ferries boss. Keith Wickenden MP, is unlikely to be begging on the streets this Christmas - recently he told share-holders: "We are going holders:

to be embarrassed by the amount we are going make on property in the UK in 1980. Quite frankly, it is becoming just too easy to make it." Let's hope he can be spared such embarrassment in the future!

12. NEW HIBERNIA WHARF

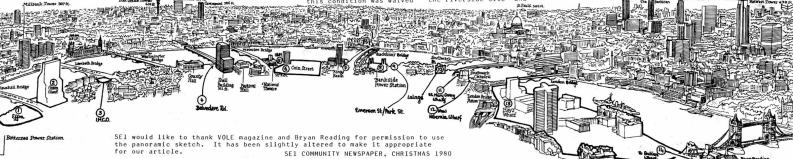
Bernard Sunley Investment Trust received permission to convert a listed warehouse between Southwark Cathedral and the river into offices. Then one of those mysterious fires burnt the warehouse down leaving the Cathedral exposed to views from the North Bank. However, permission was granted last year for 120,000 square feet of offices and 16 flats on the site.

13. HAYS WHARF

Regular readers will know that despite Southwark Council's haste to approve the (now Kuwaiti-owned) Hay's Wharf proposals for 2.2 million square feet of offices - equivalent to some 14 'Centre Point blocks - and 240 flats. Michael Heseltine has announced that a Public Inquiry must be held to look into the scheme (which includes a 21storey block). The North Southwark Community Development Group has submitted its own application to develop the 25acre site with homes, industry and open space.

14. BUTLERS WHARF

Town and City Properties own 14 acres of land around Butler's Wharf. Southwark have just turne down a scheme to develop part of the site with private flats and an hote It wishes to renovate some of the old warehouses. Courages have recently announced it will be abandoning its neighbour ing brewery and the Council wishes to delay decisions about development until the larger sit is available.



WAC future threatened

WATERLOO ACTION CENTRE. with the WORK CENTRE, is about to have further discussions with Lambeth Coun- ish both, and build an cil to secure both the future of the building. and their own occupation of it. Lambeth is the landlord.

The situation is still both unclear and complicated.

WATERLOO

There have been 5 stages so far: 1. Montague Burton's make

informal proposal to Lambeth that Burton's buy WAC and Dewhurst's, demoloffice block on the whole 2. Lambeth ask WAC and

4. In response to this Burton's make second informal proposal to Lambeth. This includes the Work Centre to move retention of WAC and to the 'Manton Press' Dewhurst buildings, but building at the other end Burton's buy the WAC site of Baylis Rd. (for £ million) and 3. All the 25 groups that become WAC's landlord. use the WAC building lobby In return for this they Lambeth Council to explain expect permission to build why it is vital for the a very high office block. Station Waterloo 5. Burton's make a formal proposal to Lambeth. This includes retention of WAC Holmes Terrace and Dewhurst buildings (as shown in the sketch) . It also includes a very high office block- 16 storevs high. It makes no reference to buying the WAC sit. **OFFICE** We wonder why? As we said the TOWER BLOCK

situation is still unclear and complicated.

building to survive.

A LONG-TERM LEASE.

LAMBETH PROMISE TO RETAIN

THE BUILDING AND TO GIVE

NEW LOOK AT LOCAL HISTORY

A Course designed as part of a series which examines the history of North Lambeth and South-

Students will be given an opportunity to see and explore several projects in the course of preparation. Source material will be discussed and those that wish may take an active part in rediscovering local history A number of local experts will give a personal approach to finding out about the past. Lectures will be illustrated with slides. THURSDAYS 7-9pm from 15th JANUARY 1981 ENROTMENT FEE: £6

COURSE TUTOR: Brian Bloice This is a Morley College course run in conjunction with the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society.

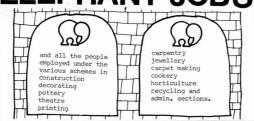
The course will be at the Beaufoy School Branch of Morley College at Lollard St, SEll.

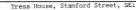
MEMBERS OF THE WALWORTH PROJECT USERS' GROUP AWAIT THE ARRIVAL OF THE SOUTH LONDON DEMONSTRATION AGAINST THE POLICIES OF THE TORY GOVERNMENT ON NOVEMBER 22ND. The marchers passed

the Project in order to mark in its defence. The campaign is the threat to the Project due to public spending cuts. The Project serves many groups and residents of the Walworth area, and the Council's proposed closure of the Centre

now reaching its last stages with Southwark Council for Voluntary Service putting the Project number one in importance among Southwark's Urban Aid apphas sparked a vigorous protest to decide its priorities soon.

Best wishes from EPHANT JOBS







Labour Party on the march against unemployment.

UNION SHORT- CIRCUITS LABOUR PARTY DEMOCRACY: continued from front page.

However when the Party contacted the secretary of the London EESA Branch, Mr K. Linney, it was told that the Branch had never agreed to affiliate to the Bermondsev Party or nominate anyone as delegate. This extraordinary situation arises because the EEPTU has recently changed its rules so that its national executive can nominate delegates to GMC's without approval (or even knowledge) of branches.

Another EETPU Branch, the London Central, has recently been ordered by head office to appoint Joe Lees as a delegate to the Bermondsey Party against the wishes of the Branch members.

A similar process has been

going on the other constituencies in Southwark. In Dulwich. the day before Sam Silkin announced he was retiring. 13 applications for delegates from the EEPTU and the General and Municipal Workers Union were accepted, giving the two unions 19 of the 49 union votes. Peckham Labour Party has also received applications from four EEPTU branches in the last Bermondsey Party members are

very disturbed by what they regard as an attempt by a powerful trade union techange the political complexion of their party..Secretary Peter Tatchell said "we cannot accept that genuinely representative delegates can be swamped by delegates appointed in a manner which is undemocratic by Labour Party standards".

PARENT POWER

Parent Power raised £587 in 15 hours at Friars School Fair on Saturday 22 November. The money goes towards a minibus for the school, to take the children on educational

As one of the parents said, "To make this an outstanding event, we made many novelty Christmas presents - and didn't they sell well! We had a wonderful variety of knitted dolls'clothes that went

It is hard not to be suspicious about the EEPTU's motives The Union has a full-time officer whose job is to handle affiliations to Labour Party constituencies. Their new rule allowing the national executive to appoint delegates over the heads of branch members and their practice of nominating active right-wing politicians who have no obvious connection with the electrical or plumbing trades give plenty of cause for doubt over the Union leadership's ideas on democracy.

It was only in September, at the Hays Wharf public meeting, that another right-wing Southwark Councillor, Ron Watts spoke about 'Marxist infiltration of constituency Labour Parties'. He should start looking at what his colleagues are

like a bomb. Mind you it took hours to package and display them properly, but the finished job looked most professional. It's surprising what hidden talents parents have! As for the home-cooking stall - well, it had to be seen to be believed. Cakes and preserves came in from all quarters, and beautifully displayed, too. I'm sure some of our parents are in the wrong professions.

We also had hand-made wooden toys, new books, games, raffles, and all the usual 'Fair' goods.

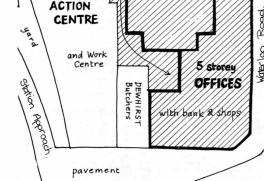
Father Christmas paid a surprise visit, and was instantly mobbed, but our Friendly-Neighbourhood-P.C. came to his rescue.

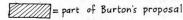
Finally, may we thank everyone, (parents, friends, children, teachers, and local pub and shop-keepers) for giving their money, their time, their talent and their goods.

We shall have more money to add to the £587 when we have sold the rest of our new, navy and red. FRIARS SCHOOL T-shirts and sweat-shirts.

Here's to the next event - we've only got the engine and 2 wheels, so far.'









TO ALL THE SUPPORTERS OF THE COIN STREET ACTION GROUP to thank them for their help A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND APROSPEROUS NEW YEAR NAT



RIGHT TO FUEL CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

A lot of people will be spending Christmas in the dark this year. This is because the L.E.B. has cut off their electricity supply. People are being cut off even if they are old or sick or have young children. People are being cut off for bills of only £30. People are being cut off even though they have offered to pay large weekly amounts off their arrears.

The basic fact is that electricity is just too expensive for people on low incomes, and it is really hard for them to find the money to pay the bills. On top of this, the L.E.B. are ignoring the code of practice which is meant to protect the most vulnerable people against being cut off in the winter months. They are taking a strict view that they are a business out to make money and as a result they are using inhumane policies in the middle of winter.

Southwark Right to Fuel Campaign got going recently with a demonstration outside the L.F.B. showroom in Walworth Road, Our main demand is that there should be no disconnections without going through the courts. This would mean that a court order could determine the amount to be paid off the arrears every week, and avert the threat of discor-

The campaign intends to get as much publicity as possible about what is happening. So far we have managed to get publicity for two of the worst cases of hardship

HEALTH CENTRE PLANS

WHAT SORT OF HEALTH CENTRE WOULD PEOPLE LIKE TO SEE IN WATERLOO? - the Barley Mow Clinic was discussed at a meeting there on Nov. 27th.

There was a strong feeling that the Barley Mow Clinic is underused. There is a family planning clinic on Mon evernings baby clinic on Wed afternoons, an ante-natal group on Mon afternoons and a dentist who treats school children and pregant women.

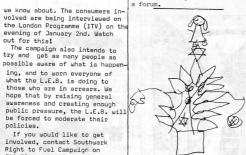
Ideas for more facilities, suggested at the meeting, included:

a foot clinic head-to-toe checkups teenage counselling abortion counselling advice on minor health complaints

stop-smoking group support for alcoholics & their families

a place for health courses & health groups to meet a health library

The management of the proposed health centre was also discussed. We felt it was important to have a management committee including representatives from local community groups. Facilities and activities at the health centre could then be chosen in direct response to local people's health needs. Any complaints and ideas for improvement and change at the health centre could be easily taken to such



Right to Fuel Campaign on Best wishes from the Members & Staff

BLACKFRIARS, *** SETTLEMENT 3 WORK CENTRES

we know about. The consumers in

evening of January 2nd. Watch

The campaign also intends to

try and get as many people as

ing, and to warn everyone of

what the L.E.B. is doing to

those who are in arrears. We

hope that by raising general

awareness and creating enough

be forced to moderate their

If you would like to get

involved, contact Southwark

out for this!

policies.

WATERLOO ACTION CENTRE 14 BAYLIS ROAD LONDON SET 7AA

Merry Christmas 9287525/6 and Happy New Year. SEI Friends

Buy your Christmas cards and gifts from our shopfront stall at the Waterloo Action Centre: hand silkscreen-printed cards, beautiful woollen rugs, wooden plant stands. Well made, reasonably priced and attractive. -good value for money.

NELSON'S COLUMN



'Day in, Day out' Peckham Poets No. 3.

This is the first calendar that the group has produced: # (#K= //=00#U=A2)

"Aborted leaves plummet down_ wards, first messengers of nature's suicide plot. Like outlandish birds of reds and greens, they fall abandoned and forgot

And the season's curtains slowly close as Sol takes a last encore, applauded by only Beast and Birds, to slide away once

Anne Culley

"May I do this May I do that A very undemanding month of the year."

Marlene McLeary

This is the third publication by the Peckham Writers Group. I think the poems are good and that the drawings and cartoons are very good also. The calendar is well put together. with the one with the Queen and Maggie. I feel you could spend hours looking at it. and I also feel that it's a good buy for 75 pence. The sunset on the front of the calendar makes it very eye catching indeed.

The Peckham Writers Group is on every Tuesday at 7pm. Why don't you come and meet the rest of us if you think you can write. It is also affiliated to the Worker Writers and Community Publishers, which has local groups all round Britain. The group meets at the Peckham Bookplace.

I wish everyone a happy Christmas.

BISHOPS WARD LABOUR PARTY

Lambath Seasons Greetings from your Councillors

Brvn Davies Peter Lane Pam Verdon

Surgery every Thursday 6.30-7.30pm. China Walk Tenants Hall, Lambeth Walk



NEW LAW ON SUPPLEMENTARY BENEFITS

The law which governs supplementary benefits changed on Monday 24th November, If you are a supplementary benefit claimant, your rights have been affected. These are some of the main changes:

- 1. The rules which determine what you get and how you are treated are now written into the law rather than just being policy. This is very important.
- 2. There are now only two different rates of benefit you can claim for the support of your children: Ages 0-10 £7.30
- Ages 11-15 £10.90 3. You can claim the long term rate (more money), if you have been claiming supple-mentary benefit for more
- than one year. THIS DOES NOT APPLY TO CLAIMANTS WHO ARE IINEMPLOYED. 4. If you are a single parent you can keep up to £12 a
- week of part time earnings before your benefit is affected. 5. You can claim either £1.40

or £3.40 heating addition if below: you are ill or your accommodation is difficult to heat. These heating additions

used to operate under the old system but the criteria for getting them are now more clear cut.

- 6. You can no longer claim for a clothing grant unless you fulfill special conditions such as being pregnant or disabled or suffering accidental loss or damage to your existing clothes.
- 7. If you have an adult living with you who is not a dependant and not a claimant of supplementary benefit themselves, then £4.60 is knocked off YOUR benefit.
- 8. There is a further right of appeal if you are not success ful at the local tribunal. You can now appeal to the social security commissioners on a point of law.

These are some of the changes. If you are uncertain about the new legislation, particularly if you want to appeal. SEEK ADVICE. You can get advice at Waterloo Action Centre 10am - 2pm Mon-Fri or at B.I.A.S. Blackfriars Settlement, 1.30-4.30pm Mon-Fri.

The new rates are set out

	Short-term	Long-term (1 yr+)
	£	£
Husband and wife or couple living together	34.60	43.45
Single parent responsible for rent or/ single householder	21.30	27.15
Non-householder (18+) + rent addition	17.05 2.15	21.70 2.15
Non-householder (16+) + rent addition	13.10 2.15	16.65 2.15
Children's rates: 11-15 years 0-10 years	10.90 7.30	

FREE LEG ADVICE

Waterloo Action Centre 14 Baylis Road, SE1 Tel: 261 1404.

EVERY THURSDAY 6.30 -NO APPOINTMENT NECESSA

The Legal Advice Serv Christmas and a Happy Ne

We are a team of lawyers and social workers who can offer you free legal advice on all sorts of problems:

Housing, consumer, matrimonial, debts, tax and insurance. wills, legal aid, court procedures, personal accident and injury, employment, unfair dismissal, social security, motoring offences etc. We can help you to write letters or complete forms or do them for you and can contact other agencies the Council, landlords, government bodies on your behalf.

Best wishes from all the workers at the

Waterloo

Mon - Fri 10am - 2pm. FREE LEGAL ADVICE Thursday 6.30pm - 8 pm. PENSIONERS LUNCH CLUB Every day PENSIONERS CLUB Monday and Tuesday YOUTH CLUBS

Mon. Tues. Weds. 7pm. REGULAR JUMBLE SALES HALL & MEETING ROOMS FOR HIRE

14 Baylis Road SE1. Tel: 261 1404

The Action Centre will be closed from Wednesday 24th December at 2.00pm, and re-open on Monday 5th Jan The BIAS service at Blackfriars Settlement will be closed for the same period.

WELFARE RICHTS COURSE 26 - 30 JANUARY

This course is being organised by Morley College and B.I.A.S. at Blackfriars Settlement. It is being held at Morley College.

NATIONAL INSURANCE - SUPPLEMENTARY BENEFIT - HOUSING -CHILDRENS RIGHTS - UNFAIR DISMISSAL - IMMIGRATION -

RACE RELATIONS - RIGHTS ON ARREST

The sessions will be from 10am to 1pm and 2pm to 4.30pm

Please send money and booking form to B.I.A.S. Blackfriars Settlement, 44 Nelson Square, SE1

Please enrol me on the welfare rights course on 26-30 January I enclose a cheque/P.O. for £6.00

(This fee can be reduced for meanle on a low income)

NAME		 	
ADDRESS		 	
	1111111	 	7.500.003

At your wits' end? Problem solved!

SPACIOUS HALL: Ideal for Wedding Receptions, meetings, conferences. Two Halls available. Catering and bar facilities.

CONTACT: Mary Murphy, Hall manager, after 6pm on 01 - 407 8179 or call at Hall 7.30 - 10pm Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday.

ROCKINGHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE, off New Kent Road, SE1.

AL	• 311	TIONS
	TO	
1.00pm	FER BRIDGE ROAD	1
ce wishes all rea	aders of SE1 a	Merry

Christmas Greetings from | Blackfriars Settlement

> 44-47 Nelson Square, SE1. 928 9521



CRIS members gather out-side Wedge House in SE 1, before the "funeral for social security" at the Elephant & Castle.

NORTH LAMBETH DAYCENTRE cont.frompage one

The Centre also caters for single people in more stable accommodation but who, because they have difficulty coping, are at risk of becoming homeless and rootless.

NLDC works to:
(i)enable attenders to
increase their social
skills and raise literacy
levels where necessary.
(ii)provide workshops so
that attenders may gain
satisfaction from practical tasks and become used
to the disciplines of work.

(iii) contribute to an improvement in attenders' physical and mental health through provision of basic nursing care, health education and help with better access to the National Health Service. (iv) enable attenders to obtain their welfare and civil rights.

"A Place of Change" is available, price £1.30 including P & P from NLDC, Former Outpatients Dept., Royal Waterloo Road, SE1. For further information contact: Danny Levine on 261 9622.

AN INSURANCE COMPANY THAT DOESN'T PAY OUT

November 24th was the day that social security benefits were increased to compensate for the ravages of inflation during the last year.

A happy day for pensioners, the disabled and the sick? A day of celebration for the unemployed and for single parents?

Claimants Rights In South—wark didn't seem to think so. Their members met at Wedge House in Blackfriars Road before walking down to meet a national protest at the DHSS headquarters at Elephant and Castle.

Living Standards

Barbara Joel, of Claimants Rights in Southwark explained what the protest was about:

"November 24th was the day when several changes in social security law - changes which will drastically affect the living standards of claimantscame into force.

"Just for starters the increase was two weeks later than in previous years. That delay alone was sufficient to wipe out the benefit of the £10 Christmas bonus paid to pensioners.

"Secondly, the law linking pensions to the average increase in earnings has been abolished. Pensions will now only be linked to prices. That means the elderly will not receive their share of any increase in the country's wealth.

"Thirdly, many of the 'extras' which used to be available
with supplementary benefit grants to buy clething or pay
heating bills - have been abolished or severely cut back.

"Fourthly, many benefits have not even been increased in line with inflation. For example, the disabled on Invalidity Pension got 5% less than inflation. That's a cut of £2 or £3 to some families. And the same applies to the unemployed.

"Cynically, the government chose the same day to announce a one per cent increase in employees' National Insurance contribution - exactly equivalent to a one penny in the pound increase in income tax.

"Would you insure yourself with a company that said 'We're putting your premium up.
But from now on you'll have to be careful, because if you have an accident we can't afford to pay you'? That's what the government are saying."

Funeral

The protest took the form of a wake, with coffins marked 'Social Security is Dead'.

Claimants Rights in Southwark now plans a membership drive to alert the public to the drastic situation.

For more information about CRIS, telephone Robert Good on 231 2473 or write to CRIS, c/o 12 Meymott Street SE 1.

