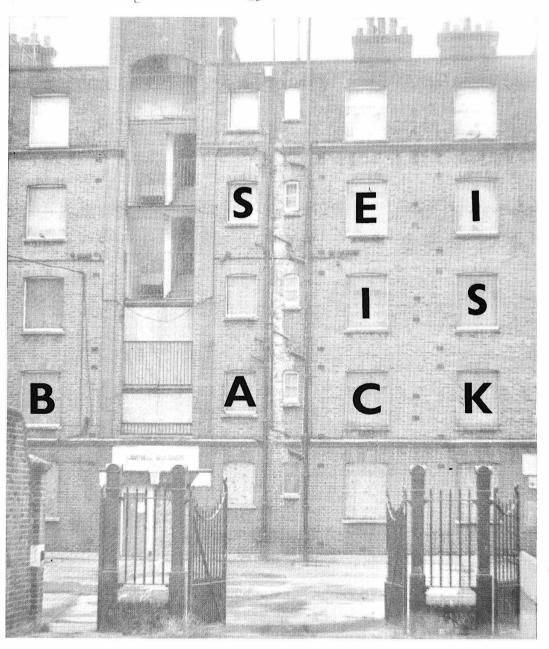
SEL

DEC/JAN 15, NUMBER 1



inside!

LETTERS, CARTOON, AND WHAT IS HAPPENING TO CAMPBELL BUILDINGS.

EDITORIAL, TANSWELL MATHERS
AND TODDLERS GROUP REPORT,
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NEW HOUSING CO, OP IN
WATERLOO.

STAN ROTHWELL'S NEW BOOK
'LAMBETH AT WAR'LAUNCHED,
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WE TAKE A LOOK AT THE
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NEW BOOKSHOP OPENS IN SEI.

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PROFILE OF BERMONDSEY'S PROSPECTIVE LABOUR PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATE, NEWS FROM LOCAL SCHOOL ON CHILDREN LEARNING TO READ.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS.

MODEL OF COMMUNITY PLAN
FOR THE MUCH DEBATED COIN
STREET SITE, COLOMBO ST
YOUNGSTERS LOBBY SOUTHWARK
COUNCIL, NEWS OF LOCAL
PLAYGROUNDS.

the local newspaper!

OLD

Dear editors,

T am sorry to read in your recent edition of SEl (March 1981) that it is to be the last.

16.3.81

Whilst I did not always agree with thoughts expressed in the paper, it was a creditable effort to keep local people abreast of events and activities in their area. I personally found some of the more political articles extremely interesting.

Yours sincerely

Herbert H. Sandford

18.9.81

(then chairman of GLC Central Area Planning Committee)

& NEW

Dear editors.

Delighted to see you back in circulation - hope to write an article for you when I get

a moment: Much luck for the future.

Yours sincerely

Anne Critchley (local resident)





THE ELBOW!!

This Santa cartoon, drawn by Francis Boyle of 'Gannets' fame, is available as a large card from Southwark Unemployed Action Centre, in 6 Peckham High St, SE15. It is a two colour production (black and red!) and costs 200

CAMPBELL GOES, BUT..

Instead of the demolition of Campbell Buildings marking an end to uncertainty about the site. it has created new problems. Late in August, residents of the Tanswell Estate and Pearman Street, bordering the site, heard from the council that National Car Parks had made an application to use the space left by the demolition of the first two blocks of Campbell for a temporary car park.

Local people were extremely worried by the possible noise. pollution and danger to children at the nearby Joanna St. school by this plan. They hastily arranged a meeting, and over fifty letters of protest were sent in to the council. Other reasons why people objected were the possible impact on ambulance station operations in Frazier Street, and the likely delay to re-building on the site.

Despite no definite information from the council on when they would be considering the

application, there have been regular meetings by residents concerned about the site. It has emerged that it has also to be approved by the GLC. George Nicholson, who is vicechairman of their planning committee, has expressed his

disapproval for the scheme. Meanwhile, the regular residents meetings, often attended by the local SDP and Liberal councillors, have come up with some alternative suggestions for temporary use of the site. A survey has been carried out, and local people overwhelmingly rejected the idea of a car park. Instead, allotments was the favourite choice. Another idea. which at first seemed quite attractive, that of a motor cycle training scheme there, seems to have a number of drawbacks. These would include

some 'on-street' training,

ous to children and others

which could again prove danger-

trying to cross roads. Other possibilities include

the sites use as a City Farm or community gardening; a pedal cycle training and sports area; and for temporary space for small businesses. This last idea has been looked into by Marshall Colman, the employment worker at Waterloo Action Centre. It would combine providing locally needed services such as window-cleaning and local industry. This would also give job training and employment for local youths and adults.

Although the current argumen is only about half of the site (three blocks are still to be demolished, and two are still lived in), it will clearly affect the longet term future of the site. The local group are determined that it will be a source of benefit to the resident population that surrounds it.

Printed by Spider Web, 14-16 Sussex Way, London N7 (01-272 9141).

credits

This first edition of the new SE1 has been put together

Jo Klein, Chris Thorogood, Kathy Connelly, Austin Challen, Jonathan Vickery, Kevin Waldron. Nick and Sue Murray, Howard Johnson, Sean Mitchell, Rob Ritchie, John Howes.

Articles and photographs were also contributed by: Rob Good, Tony Phillips, Pete Keele, Susan Norton, Marshall Coleman, Gina Haines, Dorothy Stein. David Wickert. Jemette Copperman, Rodney Mace, Geoff van der Weegan, Bob Lentell. the Pensioners Group, Kids Health Group, Jonathan Andersson, Ros Nash.

Thanks also to Maurice Vidowsky, Charlie Blessington, Curly Burnett, Keib Thomas, Terry Carroll, Ted Bowman, Gareth Pountain. Caro and Barbara. and to Blackfriars Settlement. Waterloo Action Centre and the dwellers of 12 Meymott St for the use of their facilities. Not forgetting those who have loaned typewriters, without which we could not have produced anything!

And not least to the distriba utors and sellers, too many to mention!

Apologies to anybody who has been left off this list by



should appear 6th February 1982, all being well. Meetings will be on the 13th and 27th January, and all articles, adverts etc must be in by 27th January.

LOCAL PEOPLE ASK FOR **NEW ENOUIRY**

December 2nd was the closing date for objections to the North Southwark District Plan published by Southwark Council.

Local people who objected are now expecting a public inquiry into the plan in January, where their proposals for housing. open space and local jobs instead of offices and more offices will be hotly debated.

SE1 will be reporting in full on developments in the North Southwark plan in the future. Meanwhile, you can get further details from the North Southwark Community Development Group at 56 Southwark Bridge Rd. London, SE1.

SEI IS BACK

'SEl' produced by a new group of people from the Waterloo and North Southwark area. None of us get paid for the time we have put into the paper, and nobody makes a profit from it. So you may be wondering by 'SEl' exists The answer is quite simple.

We feel that matters which really affect and interest local people are not very well covered * by other papers, including the South London Press;

and we feel that it is import- * ant for ordinary local people to be able to put across their ideas, without professional journalists making the points which they think ought to be of concern to the public.

This means that we welcome contribution by local people: we are not a 'closed' group and anybody who wants to put in a bit of time to the paper can join us. And all we would say about possible articles is that they should have some real interest for local people.

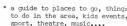
As this is our first issue and hardly any of us have done anything like a newspaper before on some sessions during the day it is by no means as good as we time shortly: Contact Jeanette would like it. We would like to Copperman at WAC (261 1404) cover an even wider range of topics, particularly from Southwark SEl. But here is an idea of what might appear:

- regular childrens page interviews with local polit-
- icans and other 'notables'.
- peoples history and 'Golden Oldie' memories.

One Tuesday in mid-November, a large number of people in the Roupell St. area of Waterloo were disturbed around midnight by the antics of a large vehicle trying to get down Brad St. But that disturbed night will be worth it. The machine on the lorry' trailer was a piledriver, needed to drive over 100 piles for foundations of buildings. And for once, new building in the area will be for family homes, and not offices.

The site, on the corner of Roupell Street and Hatfields. is being built on by the Hatch Tow Housing Co-op, especially formed for the purpose as the result of local initiative. It is somewhat similar in set up to the Edward Henry Co-op (see elswhere in this paper). The Co-op has not yet got as far as considering applications for membership: they will be advertising in 'SEl' when they are ready for this.

When the building work is completed in 1983, Hatch Row will house about 70 people in 15 houses and 4 flats.



- tenants and housing news what's happening to the Area: offices v homes; lack of play space and sports facilities. poor services etc....
- your health crossword, humour
- your letters
- general information & advice
- employment * recipes

photographs on this and that We need your help if we are to cover such a wide range, it point of views, news, humour and takes a lot of work and we are still only quite a small group so far. We intend organising another set of evening sessions for new people who would like to any learn about how to take photographs, do interviews, put the paper together (editing and lay-out) etc. None of people involved in 'SE1' at the moment knew anything much about how to produce a newspaper before they took part in a course of seven evenings.

Why not get involved in 'SEl' yourself? We also hope to put for more details.

As well as writers, we need people to make sure we have readers, to get the paper out to the shops, pubs and clubs, and even knock on a few doors perhaps.

We are all learning as we go. so please forgive at least our mistakes! But we do let us know about them: we may be too busy to notice them, or you may not agree with what we have said. Write in and let us know, also

let us know your news, and ideas for articles and photographs. Drop items in at 12 Maymott Street, SEl (orr Blackfriars

Road). or ring Rob Ritchie 735 5168 or Nick Murray 261 9119. Look forward to hearing from vou!

THE 'SE1' GROUP



Naterloo during December 1978 completed an application to Inner City Partnership for funding to convert a one-bedroom tenants' association flat to be used as a Mother & Toddler Drop-In - a place where mothers (or fathers) could bring under-fives to play while they have a chat and a cuppa. After much letter writing and lobbying the money was eventually made available in April 1980, and then only for the conversion work and basic equipment - not for running costs.

The drop-in opened in June 1980 on Tuesday mornings and Thursdays afternoons, with the mothers working a rota system between them. 4 playbus also came for a couple of months on Monday afternoons. It was a very slow start; sometimes noone would turn up at all, bit the mothers persevered and eventually the attend-ances grew. The mothers also arranged craft classes and various guest speakers (ie doctors, a dietician and workers from the Lambeth Law Centre) which

helped to attract people.

mothers advertised for a full-time worker, held interviews and employed Gina Haines. A Management Committee was then set up, consisting of local mothers a local health visitor, a community worker and a representative from Social Services. By this time, the drop-in was opening three full days a week (Tuesday, Wednesdat and Thursday)

The worker is very enthusiastic and has organised regular weekly events such as toymaking, health meetings, craft sessions Events planned for the near future are swimming lessons, yoga, also

open university

eight of the mothers are about to start an Open University course on 'The Early Years of Life'. There have also been outside events such as trips to Chessington Zoo and Vauxhall City Farm. In September of this year the mothers and the worker organised a barbeque (an evening occasion) which went exceptionally well and a reweat is planned for next year. Some of the mothers are to start up a catering co-op - making sandwiches etc. for local offices.

Looking back at the beginning of the venture in December 1978 we could not have hoped for a better success. From a few women a week we now have sometimes up to ten a session. This has taken a lot of hard work patience and determination on the part of the mothers. The atmosphere is very friendly - you can take part in the organized events or just sit and chat. We feel this is of great benefit to the mothers and the children and the result is well worth the effort put in.





LAMBETH, I REMEMBER IT WELL

LAMBETH at WAR

Fifty people, locals, teachers, librarians, Councillors, the Mayor of Lambeth and John Tilley MP for Lambeth Central, came to a party at Waterloo Action Centre on the 17th November to celebrate SE1 People's History Group's second publication in eighteen months: Stanley Rothwell's "Lambeth at War".

Like so many people who now live in this part of the city. Stan came to London during the Depression in search of work. After living in several parts of North Lambeth. Stan and his wife Celia settled in Walnut Tree Walk off the Kennington Road in 1940.

well known

Stan was well known in South London at that time as a wrestler and physical education instructor. He also often worked as model for famous artists like Alfred Hardiman, whose sculpture you can see on County Hall -Stan and his brother posed for the one called 'The Strong uplifting the Weak'.

rescue worker

It was in 1940 during the 'Phoney War' that Stan first began to put his thoughts on war down on paper. Throughout the next five terrible years he kept notes on his life and work as a rescue worker. Later he wrote it up and put it away in a cupboard and forgot about it. In 1979 Stan and Celia started to come to the History Group, and one evening the manuscript of what was to become 'Lambeth at War' was passed round. Over the next few weeks several people read it and were all struck by its directness and the horror of war it evoked.

ANIMAL BATTLES IN SEI.

"After a long and bitter battle, the League Against Cruel Sports has purchased the famous Alfoxton Park - 60 acres of beautiful woodland in the middle of Quantock Staghound territory."

This is part of an article in the League Against Cruel Sports newsletter that I picked up in their office on the corner of Union Street. It is the only office the League has, and it was decided to place it in this area because of Southwark's proximity to Parliament where they push for legislation to ban blood-sports, which are more popular in England than other European countries.

The League has persuaded the

Co-op to ban blood-sports on

Some county councils now also

local wildlife, which is quite

so little to do that they kill

often being destroyed by the

for pleasure.

58,000 acres of their land.

The League cannot apply for charity status because it is classed as a 'political organisation - so its funds come from donations. The League spends its money on key pieces of land on, for example, a fox hunting site, so that the victim fox can flee safely. The hunt can be prosecuted if it follows. Some of these havens are beauty spots like Alfoxton Park: they will be opened to the public in between hunts.

THE LEAGUE'S HEADQUARTERS: on the corner of Union Street and Southwark Bridge Road, they are located for easy access for Westminster.



not sentimental

Months later, after some

editing, the final text was

produced and the search for

some suitable local pictures

was begun. We didn't need to

Archives had quite a collect-

ion. as well as the records

of Lambeth Civile Defence.

Armed with these and ten of

Stan and Celia's own photo-

graphs. plus some copies of

Stan's drawings that are in

the Imperial war Museum, we

attractive yet cheap book that

local people could afford. We

were greatly assisted in this

by the help of a designer from

set about producing an

the London College of

Printing.

look far, for Larbeth

The forty pictures. and the eighteen thousand words that make up 'Lambeth at war' are no sentimental account. Stan describes the horrors of war because it's his firm conviction that this generation must do all it can do to prevent itself from getting burnt at the same fire that destroyed so many of his.

'Lambeth at War' is available from local bookshops or by 'post from SE1 People's History Group, Morley College, 61 Westminster Bridge Road, SE1; price £1.60 plus 40p postage and packing.

If interested in joining the Group please write to Morley College or phone Rodney Mace 274 4617.

> The dust and dirt of bombing meant constant washing and cleaning: getting things dry especially in winter was a real problem. Picture: Lambeth Archives.

office are committed to their cause, and have a friendly attitude towards newcomers. I take some more interest in their am sure they would be glad of help in whatever form. After all, in a world where certain groups of people in need are landed gentry, who seem to have forgotten, animals seem lost.

Sean Mitchell



EXCITING

The Edward Henry Housing Cooperative which has involved local people over the past three years has finally stopped being just a plan on paper and a long awaited hope; it is now a reality.

Amid last minute delays and confusion, the first batch of tenancies were handed over together with keys and central heating operating instructions. Cornwall Road where the first completed block is situated, experienced a different kind of traffic problem a few weeks ago as removal vans and cars laden with plants, cats and cookers headed for their destination. the place known simply as the Edrard Henry co-op. With its commanding views of St. Georges spire and Waterloo station, the tenant managed and operated scheme will provide people with real secure housing and for many over a variety of issues; somewhere that can really be called home.

`the beleaguered

The block was hurriedly cleaned and vacated by the builders. It was sometimes idfficult to tell them apart from the new tenants as they jostled each other around the beleagured lift, complete with its smoked glass vanity mirror. Although there were still a few door handles missing and odd paint jobs etc, the new homes were taken over relatively smoothly. And now, a few weeks later, with the cardboard wrapping off, and the automatic street door and entry phone system working fully, the place is beginning to get a sense of identity and comfortable feel to it, so that its nice to visit with friends there, and get to know new faces. And when the second block on

RIGHT: TONIA NEWMAN AND BABY





Young Vic

On Thursday 12th November, about 10 local residents went to County Hall to give evidence at an oral hearing. They were protesting against the Young Vic being granted an annual music and lancing licence. Objections had been sent to the GLC by over 50 roups and individuals. The ouncillors after hearing evidency from residents and the Young Vic general manager, Mr. Sautaine, ranted a 5 month licence (due to and in April and added some pecial provisions onto it. The ouncillors heard how residents and repeatedly to go and complain about noise, during the Young Vic's nine years of existance. Mrs. Smith, who lives near the oung Vis told the enquiry how she had gone down several times after lam to ask that noise be urned dow at late parties. here was also somethimes cenery shifting during the night when the show changed and 1 resident told the enquiry, his laughter had had to sleep with asplugs in. The enquiry was old by Hugh Edwards, environental health officer that he had large file of complaints on the oung Vic made by local residents over several years and that the building was made of breeze block and was not therefore properly soundproofed.

"more careful aboutnoise after shows"

Mr.. Sautainem told the enquiry that he had instructed his staff to be more careful about noise made after shows had finished and that he wanted to be informed personally of any complaints that residents had. He said that the Young Vic intended to have about 6 concerts a year but that these should finish by 11pm. The enquiry heard that several people in the flats had been deterred from

Young Vic entnd.

objecting because they had been afraid they would have to give evidence in person. They are elderly residents, who are unable to do this, or people who work during the day. Further complaints about noise from the YoungVic should be made to Mrs. Bristo at County Hall and to Hugh Edwards, envorinmental health officer and to local councillors. The Young Vic are also applying at the moment to Lambeth Council to renew their 9 year old planning permission on a theatre. Any comments on this should be made to the Chief Planning Officer, Lambeth Planning Department. Courtney House, New Park Rd... LONDON SW2.

Southbank Book-shop

We are sure all 'SE1' readers rill welcome the new bookshop just opened in Borough Road. Not only is it filling a gar in the range of shopping available in SE1. it will also be selling the newspaper itself. The amazingly wide range of books, magazines and pamphlets on show even at the opening party (see picture) was most impressive, even though there was more stock to come.

Maurice Vidowsky, the moving force behind setting up the 'South Bank Bookshop', is not doing it for money though. He does hope it will pay him and his assistants a reasonable wage, but it is a basically a non-profit making venture, giving a service to the community. He has also shown his commitment to the area by helping with putting together this paper. We wish him well, and trust the shop, at 113 Borough Road (near St. Georges Circus) will soon be an established part of the area.





THE LORD CLYDE

THE BOROUGH S.E.1

TRUMANS BEER Merry Xmas from Dennis, Molly, Michael, Lucy

Hot & Cold Food 407-3397

Pete's Shellfish

(OUTSIDE TOM'S SHOP, 137 SOUTHWARK BRIDGE ROAD) BEST QUALITY SHELLFISH SUPPLIED:

WINKLES, PRAWNS, WHELKS, COCKLE, MUSSELS ETC! PERHAPS YOUR PARTY WOULD FANCY A BOWL OF OLD FASHTONED JELLIED EELS FOR A CHANGE?

> PETE TAKES THIS OPPORTUNITY TO WISH BOTH OLD AND NEW CUSTOMERS A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

Teenage Information Network 102, Harper Road S.E.1

403-2444

ADVICE, INFORMATION & COUNSELLING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN SOUTHWARK.

We will be closed 24th December to 3rd January inclusive.

Happy A Christmas from Sid at The Wheatsheaf

WATERLOO ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

ALL THE STAFF WISH EVERYBODY A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR There will be a Christmas scheme

> PLENTY OF ACTIVITY TAKING PLACE

North Lambeth Law Centre 381, Kennington Lane, London S.E.11.

TO THE THE STREET THE STREET

Free legal advice and assistance on problems with housing, employment, welfare rights etc. Legal advice session on all areas of law at Pory Hall, Ethelred Estate each Wednesday

6.30 - 8pm. No appointment necessary.

Emergency telephone service every night: 582-4425

merry christmas

72nd N & C LAMBETH SCOUT GROUP

SEASONAL GREETINGS TO ALL DUR FRIENDS

Headquarters at: 39 CORNWALL RD SEL

Waterloo Amenities held at Waterloo Action Centre wishes all its patrons and committee members, past and present, a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year in 1982.

'N' reg very good cond. -ition (nice red colour) \$200 no offers Phone Mark Daley 251 7360 (daytimes only

THERE IS A WIDE RANGE OF ACTIVITIES GOING ON AT COLOMBO STREET SUITABLE FOR EVERYBODY:

BADMINTON Wednesday 7-10pm and Sunday 11am-1pm

FOOTBALL AND NETBALL on the Hatfields Open Space: ask for booking details

KARATE Tuesday and Thursday 7.30pm WEIGHT TRAINING: enquire for details

YOGA Beginners Tuesday 6pm Intermediate Thursday 6pm

FOR YOUNGSTERS: BADMINTON Wednesday 5pm

BOXING Wednesday and Friday 6.30pm

ROLLER SKATING Mondays 5pm for under 10s, 6.30pm 10-16s

TABLE TENNIS Tuesday 6pm

SOFT TENNIS Tuesday 5pm

UNI-HOCKEY Friday 6pm

PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUP takes place Mondays to Fridays in term time from 10am to noon for $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 year olds.

CONTACT THE CENTRE ON 261 1658 OR DROP ROUND TO GET FURTHER DETAILS OF OUR WINTER PROGRAMME COLOMBO STREET SPORTS & COMMUNITY CENTRE, COLOMBO ST, SE1

(off Blackfriars Road)

A MERRY **CHRISTMAS**

Southwark-Bermondse CATHEDRAL BRANCH Labour Party

" NO CUTS IN SERVICES FIGHT RENT INCREASES. FIGHT THE TORY HEALTH AND EDUCATION CUTS."

BEST WISHES FROM VOLLE LOCAL COUNCILLORS:

ALAN DAVIS GEORGE NICHOLSON

North Southwark Community Development Group REJECT THE COUNCIL'S LOCAL PLAN



LET US PLAN OUR AREA

Chairperson Ted Bowman 56 SOUTHWARK BRIDGE ROAD, SE1. TELEPHONE 928 6476

Secretary Sue Murray

HEALTH

Merry Xmas

and a Healthy New Year

WATERLOO HEALTH PROJECT

YOGA CLASSES: Thursday at 10.30am at Barley Mow Clinic, Frazier St, SE1 PENSIONERS HEALTH GROUP: Tuesday at 10.30am at Barley Mow Clinic

WOMENS HEALTH GROUP: 3rd Thursday in the month at Barley Mow Clinic at 7.30pm

CHILDRENS HEALTH CLUB at 4pm at Waterloo Adventure Playground

PARENTCRAFT CLASSES: every Monday at 2pm at Barley Mow Clinic

COUNSELLING on Tuesday 7pm-9pm at Barley Mow Clinic

Waterloo Health Project, Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road, SE1 261 1404

> PENSIONERS HEALTH GROUP "for pensioners, run by pensioners".

morning a week. We have discussions on what we would like to know health wise the we get speakers including doctors and nurses.

rheumatism, bronchitis, pills, the heart and many other things,

There's a very good atmosphere, very relaxing and friendly. We have a cup of tea or coffee plus Here are some of the pensioners

We meet at Barley Mow Clinic one All newcomers would be most welcome. We will be changing our day to Wednesday or Thursda in the New Year from 10... 30am till 120'clock. Please ask for Dolly Davey or Doreen Ramsey We talk about diet, waterworks, at the Waterloo Action Centre f depression, stress, feet, veins, any information regarding the Pensioners Health Group.

> belonging to the group, at one of our meetings. \



Come to the Health club The Health club is held at the Waterloo Adventure Playground Baylib, RD. On wednesday

It starts at Four till half five and as it is a HEALTH - club NO sweets allowed

You don't need no money at all and we go outs on outings we do cooking and Reafle From other Health clubs come to viste. We go Swimming and watch films. We also Play gurnes that also by the year of the disabled. I hope you come

MURALS



If any part of the country needs a bit of a facelift, it is the SEl area. With so many derelict buildings and sites. and dreary old railway bridges, murals are one way to liven up the place.

In Bermondsey Street, one side of a building by a patch of greenery has recently been turned into a colourful history of the area. A black and white photo does it little justice! Why not go and see for yourself the scenes depicting Bermondsey Abbey back in 1082, or the tanning and cooperage which went on in Bermondsey up until quite recently? And not forgetting the printing, which is still a noticeable tradition around the South Bank. And of course, the artist could hardly have got away without featuring the docks.

Lynette Lombard, who with some help from the Bermondsey

Lampost school kids, did all the painting, was paid by Southwark Council and the Royal Academy. However, she did not just pick a wall and paint on it: she spent a lot of time talking with the local businesses and community groups to see what they thought ought to go there. In total, the mural has taken two years, from initial idea to finish.

Lynette has also organised the dozen murals which have been designed and painted by various groups in Waterloo. They have been done on individual boards, and planning applications (at £20 a time) have been put in for their display probably at the Movable Gardens in Cornwall Road or possibly on the Cut allotment site.

The picture shows work being done on murals at Colombo St. Sports & Community Centre.



■ A message from the Waterloo children's health club-soon to have a new worker(see next issue



WATERLOO ACTION CENTRE MONDAY PENSIONERS CLUB WISH ALL THE COMMUNITY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

One of the first things that Peter stresses is that an MP should never forget that he is the representative of local people. He recognises the danger of being drawn into the remote world of Westminster and is determined to stay in his Council flat if elected: 'Being from a working-class background and living on a local estate gives me an understanding of the problems and needs of local people', he told SE1. To show that he means business he has stated that if elected he will accept only the wage of a skilled worker and donate the rest of the big MP's salary to the Labour

LOCAL FOR M.P?

Party. As he explains: 'Since I want to represent workingclass people. I see no reason why I shouldn't remain living in a council flat on an income equivalent to local people. After all, how can any MP on £14 000 a year really know and understand the hardships faced by working-class people. On that kind of money they drift away into a different lifestyle and become remote from the meanle who elected them. You can bet that if MPs had to get by on a worker's wage they would fight a lot harder for the interests of working-class people. They wouldn't collude with wage restraint and 5% limits. By living on a skilled worker's wage I intend to stay in touch with local people and their needs. That way I'll be in a better position to speak out with conviction as their voice in Parliament. I don't expect any special privileges and rewards for fighting for the interests of Bermondsey people. I'll accept a better standard of living when we win it for evervone'.

Feter's own background is a working-class one. His father was a lathe operator and his mother was a packer in a biscuit factory. He himself left school at 16 and became a carpenter and painter and decorator, and eventually, after doing A-levels at night-school, went to the North London Polytechnic to do a degree in social sciences. He spent a bit of time researching and doing freelance journalism - one of his 'scoops' was a report onthe British-owned tea estates in Malawi where child labour was used. starvation wages of 15pence per hour were paid, and trade unions suppressed. Peter has travelled a lot and believes that politicians should have an international outlook. He has been involved in campaigns against the Vietnam war. and against the treatment

of working-class dissidents

in Russia and East Europe.

Peter thinks that the

Labour Party can lharn a lot from these campaigns and that it should try to introduce a more campaigning style of politics in this country. In doing so. he says, it would be recalling the traditions of the Labour Party in Bermondsey before the war: 'Bermondsey has a radical tradition dating back to the 1920s when Alfred and Ada Salter campaigned to clear the slums and rid Bermondsey of its poor and insanitary housing conditions. I want to revive that that old Bermondsey fighting spirit. We have to openly and honestly argue that only through a fundamental redistribution of wealth and power can we secure full employment and better housing, education and health care for working-class people. We will never achieve this within the context of the present political and economic system. Only a radical socialist transformation of society, with the support of the overwhelming majority of people, can ensure industrial recovery and economic prosperity. together with social justice and equality for all. SE1 asked Peter what he

thought the priorities were for Bermondsey politically: 'Stop property speculation carving up the Bermondsey and North Southwark riverside, and ensure that the riverside sites such as Hay's Wharf are used to meet local people's needs for jobs and better housing. As a council tenant I'm very aware of the rapid deterioration of housing conditions in the borough and will make it my business to oppose any further rent increases and to demand faster and more efficient repairs'.

When a by-election is called in Bermondsey next year (the current MP Bob Mellish is retiring to take up a job with the Docklands Development Corporation) the electors will have as their candidate quite clearly someone who is determined to be different from the run-ofthe-mill career politician. It should be a lively and exciting campaign if nothing

St SAVIOUR'S

Parents of children at St. Saviours School in Redcross Way SE1 may well have come across a new way of introducing reading and writing, called I.T.A., or Initial Teaching Alphabet.

I.T.A. was introduced into 21 schools in England in 1961, and also introduced in America, Canada. Australia and other English speaking countries where it flourished. St Saviours introduced the code in 1965. The I.T.A. is a complete -ly different way of teaching to the conventional T.O. (Traditional Orthography) method which most schools teach. I.T.A. is not only used to teach children in the early school years up to the age 7-8, it is also used in the teaching of immigrant adults and children in England, Sierra Leone, Hong Kong and Columbia, where English is learned as a foreign language, deaf to read and write. Young to give good pronunciation and help in the reading and writing of English. Miss McKenzie, headmistress of St. Saviours. thinks it important to make the point that I.T.A. is not a method of teaching, but a code,

a simple code that most chil-

Sir Isaac Pitman, inventor of the world's most widely used form of shorthand, laid the foundation for I.T.A. as far back at 1844. He developed the alphabet called Fonotopy, which was tested in schools in the Although Sir Tsaac lived to see

dren find easy to follow.

IISA between 1852 and 1860state recognition of shorthand in the 1890s it was left to his grandson, Sir James Pitman K.B.E., to perfect the work on

The alphabet is based on, and similar in design to our Roman alphabet, but with regular and consistant spelling. There is a high success rate in children learning by I.T.A. which gives them freedom in their writing. Basically the child writes the word by sound, and this is also a great help in teaching the children are frustrated when they cannot put their feelings and thoughts onto paper. I.T.A. eliminates the usual difficulties and restrictions of T.O. There are no 'silent' letters and few words are spelt the

same, therefore the child can

which encourages more reading and writing. Around the age of 7 most children make the change over from I.T.A. to T.O. It is usually very easy and in fact in some cases the children don't know that they are no longer doing I.T.A. I this most parents would be put off if they saw the I.T.A. books. To us it looks very much like shorthand, but a child's mind works on logic, and many children find it easier than conventional reading. As a parent myself I am very satisfied with the I.T.A. code. My children have been able to read from an early age, and are now able to read in I.T.A. and normal writing with no difficulty. This means that they have already read a variety of books and acquired more knowledge and had more enjoyment than struggling with the T.O. method. Miss McKenzie makes a point of involving parents as much as possible, and always has time to spend with parents to explain the I.T.A. code and its advantages. Quite a lot

of schools which began in the

longer do so. Due to education cuts the 3 day course for teachers in I.T.A. is no longer run. The advantages of I.T.A. speak for themsleves. There is no doubt that there should be room in our society for this teaching code, as it can benefit many people, in cluding nonliterate adults. The only difficulty I can see is learning to spell when the child has to change over, but for example when an Englishman goes to America, he doesn't have to learn a new language, he already knows the basic and just has to adjust to a few changes of speech with which he is already familiar. The same goes for I.T.A.: the basic reading and writing is already learned. There are a few adjustments to make for the spelling. Next year I.T.A celebrates its 21st anniversary and hopefully there will be more publicity and more interest in this novel and interesting form of education.

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SENDS SEASONAL GREETINGS to all LOCAL RESIDENTS MEMBERS and FRIENDS



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GEOFF, STELLA OR STEVIE - 633 0383

Best wishes from the Members & Staff BLACKFRIARS。公外水平 SETTLEMENT 3 WORK CENTRES WATERLOO ACTION CENTRE

14 BAYLIS ROAD LONDON SE1 7AA 928 7525/6 **Merry Christmas**

and Happy New Year. SEI Friends Will

FRIDAY DECEMBER 11th

and buy your Christmas cards from our shopfront stall at the Waterloo Action Centre.

FREE LEGAL ADVICE

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

EVERY THURSDAY 6.30 - 8.00pm NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.



The Legal Advice Service wishes all readers of SE.1 a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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

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

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14 Baylis Road SE1. Tel: 261 1404

The Action Centre will be closed from Thursday 24th December at 2pm, and will re-open on Monday 4th January.

Christmas Greetings from A

Blackfriars Settlement

44-47 Nelson Square, SE1. 928 9521

CHRISTMAS A GREETINGS

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

COIN ST MODEL ON DISPLAY

The housing and light industry plans of the Association of Waterloo Groups (AWG) for the controversial Coin Street sites have taken shape in the form of a scale model showing what the area would look like.

If the plans get the goahead from the public inquiry
now taking place, Coin Street
and the South Bank will be
transformed into an exdting
living, working, shopping and
recreational environment. It
will give a vital boost to the
Waterloo community after many
years of neglect. The
Association of Waterloo Groups
will soon be presenting its
case at the inquiry held in
County Hall.

(The inquiry started in September with the proposals from Greycoat Commercial Ltd for mainly offices on the sites)

As part of the AWG case, informal evening sessions are being held at the Waterloo Action Centre, on December 3rd and 10th, when local people can say what they think should happen to the Coin St. area.

If you would like to speak, contact the Waterloo Action Centre (WAC) as soon as possible (see address below). Don't worry if you miss these dates, the inquiry will last at least until February, and there will be more opportunities to make your voice heard.

The AWG model will be on display at the evening sessions or contact WAC for further details of other places it will be on show.

The latest issue of 'Coin St. News' with details of recent events and a background history of the long-running saga has been distributed thoughout Waterloo and part of North Southwark. 'SEl' will keep you up to date on future news.

If you have not yet got a copy, or need more, 'Coin St. News' is available free from:

Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road, SE1. Phone: 261 1404 The four Playleaders:
Jackie, Roz, Elaine and

(left to right)

John



PLAYGROUND'S NEW SESSIONS

The Waterloo adventure playground has always been very concerned with the needs of Waterloo residents and their children. It was originally set up by and isstill managed by a committee of local people who make all financial and policy decisions and to whom the four full time workers are responsible.The recent changes which have occurred in the way the playground is run are, therefore,, not the result of some obscure shift in the playground policy of the borough-they are a response to the needs of local kids as seen by people in a good position to judge.

As John the head playleader put it *At one time the play-ground was dominated by a group of older children and many parents felt that it was quite a rough place-not really suotable for their younger kids.

Since the summer there has been a fairly strict under 14s only rule, and this along with the new programme of events which we are now running, has made the playground a quite different place from what it once was. **

Here is the new weekly programme; MONDAYaarts and crafts.
TUESDAY

TUESDAY arts and crafts. WENNESDAY health club. THURSDAY cooking. FRIDAY sports club for the under 12s. SATURDAY on site activities and occasional outinos.

If anyone would like yo help with one of these sessions particularly if they are interested in a sport for the Friday club they should contact one of the playledders.

MINT ST MARCHES ON

Slowly, building work is taking place on the new Mint St.
Adventure Playground and part of the surrounding area for a park. It's a shame parks are not completed as quickly as office blocks:

The new Mint St (at the corner of Marshalsea Road and Southwark Bridge Road) has a larger and better equipped building. However, Gary, John and Anthea who run the place are in need of materials for the frames: wood, paint, nails, etc. A new football pitch is also being built with floodlights. Hopefully this area will also be used for tennis and badminton.

In the building, arts and crafts will be going on, including a bit of photography. There will be a new grass covered, sun lit space in the Borough: something desperately needed in the shadow of the growing number of office blocks.

COLOMBO ST KIDS MARCH ON TOWN HALL



On the evening of November 11th, an assorted group of young people from the Colombo Street Centre could be found on the steps of Southwark Town Hall. They were brandishing badminton raquets, boxing gloves, unihookey sticks and placards. The aim of it all? To get Southwark Libraries and Amenities Committee to give the Centre money for more conversion work, and for a resident worker who will be able to open the Centre during week-ends.

The Committee were very impressed by the many activities taking place at the Centre, but had run out of cash for the time being.

They're going to be reconsidering next year so watch this space for news of the follow-up.