

SE1

FEBRUARY '83.

15p MONTHLY.

Nº 12.

GOOD NEWS ON COIN ST. AND BAD

An important victory for the community, but the battle is not finally won yet. That is very much the state of play over the Coin Street sites.

The results of the second public inquiry was announced on 10th January. Although the Inspector who conducted the inquiry came out heavily in favour of the community's plans, and argued against those of Greycoats, who want offices, the Government decided to give permission to both plans. It is now something of a tussle between the two on getting the land.

Major points which the Inspector makes are:
- even the smaller Greycoat office scheme (840,000 square feet rather than 1 million) would be a "major over-development of the site" and "would give an impression of undue bulk and dominance".
- the local community has reached a "critical threshold" in its survival and urgently needs low-rent homes on Coin Street.
- the scheme put forward by the

Association of Waterloo Groups will not only provide more homes but also more new jobs.
- the decline of office employment in central London is accelerating, and its long term future must be questioned.

The Coin Street Action Group says that the Minister responsible, which was Heseltine, and is now Tom King, has failed to carry out his basic planning responsibilities. He has said that the private market should look after the supply and demand for offices, ignoring his powers to exercise some control and the likely blight and waste of land that will result.

The large amount of hard work has produced some important results, and anybody who has made any contribution to this local effort should be congratulated. But the Action Group says that "The minister seems to be trying to teach us the lesson that rioting is more effective than winning arguments at Public Inquiries."

WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

Greycoats or associated companies control most of the land by the riverside, some

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WOMENS HEALTH SERVICE IN SOUTH LONDON THREATENED see back page



NO LICENCE!

In the last month or two, a lot of strong words have been spoken on 'Tatts' the "superpub" which was the Royal Victoria in Waterloo Road.

Even before December, local residents had protested that this sort of place was not suitable to the area, with its late licence and high prices making it a place for 'outsiders' to go. It was no longer a locals pub.

Then on Friday December 3rd, a local lad was murdered outside Tatts. The matter is still to come to trial, so we can't report fully on it now. But David Dawgan was a quiet sort of person who wouldn't hurt a fly, in the opinion of people who knew him. But he died from stab wounds after a bit of an argument at Tatts.

Two of his friends also had to go to hospital after the fight. David Redpath, from Munro House, is now out and about after the wounds having healed, while Micky Driscoll was just kept in overnight for shock. Two people have been charged in connection with the incident.

There was a large local turnout for David's funeral on 26th January - the needless death of a local lad, who came from Webber Street.

No matter what happens at the trial, many people put the blame for what happened on the pub. They, through the Association of Waterloo Groups, will be opposing the renewal of the pub's licence when it comes up shortly. There may well be moves against the late licence before then.

The legal notification to the public on a further weekday and Sunday public music and dancing licence was not proper, as it wasn't advertised for the full 28 days outside the pub. It was advertised properly in the Press though. The application was originally for a 2am licence, but has been changed to 1am.

The Royal Vic had a late occasional licence, but this didn't include music etc.

Following the murder, the Sunday (5th Dec) saw Tatts in flames, and it has not been opened, or seemingly touched, since. We believe that this is not unconnected

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the local newspaper!



PUB SOCCER STARS

Local pubs have been fighting it out to see who could win the 5-a-side league run by Action Sport at the Colombo St. Sports Centre.

The final was a tussle between two really local pubs: either side of the Centre. The Albert 'A' team came through victorious, having put arch-rivals Rose and Crown into second place.

The top team is naturally pictured on the top row of our photo, with reserves, while star player Peter Doyle couldn't keep himself away from the Rose long enough to get in the bottom row line-up. Third place went to Alberts 'B' team, fourth Royal Northern.

Letters

AT YOUR CONVENIENCE

JIM PATRICK: THANK YOU

Dear Friends,
May I through your letter page say Thank You to all my friends in the SE1 area who have supported Jim and I through our long ordeal. Without that support it would have been almost impossible to bear.

Thanking you once again,
Yours sincerely
Lil Patrick

SE1 adds: readers of SE1 will be aware of the valuable contribution Jim made to the Bermondsey area over many years. He will be greatly missed; we hope to publish appreciations of Jim's work in the next issue.

GAS LIGHTS

Dear SE1,

I should be very pleased if you can tell me how many homes in and around London have only got gas lighting still? I know only one house that has got gas light at present in the area. Could you please let me know?
North Lambeth reader

SE1 replies: We don't know ourselves, but perhaps one of our readers might know more? Drop us a line if you do, and we'll pass the information on.

Local reader

DO YOU CARE?

Dear SE1,

Christmas is past. Yet so many people are homeless. People try councils, but there is no hope, because the waiting lists are so long, especially if you are single. Single people don't like hostels, but want their own place with their own key. Alcoholics prefer sleeping out to staying in hostels. They would rather die. The council blocks all the squats up and would like to see us sleeping out. The Council isn't doing anything about it and we haven't got anywhere.

I wish you could do something about it. I need your help badly
Mario Duggani

NELSON'S COLUMN



Poor Law (Operation Major) from National CHAR

I read this book: an account of how with the co-operation of the police, the D.H.S.S. in Oxford planned an operation to trap homeless unemployed claimants. For the purposes of the operation, the DHSS hired a dis-used school from Oxford County Council, with the excuse that it was to take the overspill from the official over-worked offices, to the cost of £2000.

Why involve the police? The harsh and punitive attitude towards claimants generally and the equating of the claimant with the criminal was implicit in the arresting of every claimant who entered the FAKE benefit office. 283 people were arrested and spent time in prison without being charged.

This book really gripped me, and made me angry about how we are policed without any redress in some cases. I urge all those of you who are claimants or work as advice workers to read this book. It could happen in our local offices. This is in my opinion one of the best books I have read on the subject of social security, and in the tail, there is a twist. Think about it.

James Nelson

Copies can be obtained at £1.95 from National CHAR, 27 John Adam St, WC1

1983 WATERLOO FESTIVAL ?

If Waterloo is to have a festival this year, now is the time for preparations to begin! This event is much enjoyed by local people and visitors to the area. BUT it does need a lot of preparation. The more people we can involve in this event, the easier it is to do.

If you can spare time to help, please contact Rita Wood at Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road, SE1 (261 1404). REMEMBER: we cannot hold a Festival if there are not enough people involved.

SELF DEFENCE FOR WOMEN

Tuesday Feb 1st 7.30-9.30pm for six weeks.
All ages welcome *
Wear loose comfortable clothes
Fees: £1 for unemployed others: £3.60. Morley College, John Havard Branch, Union St. London SE1. If you need child care arrangements, let us know and we might be able to arrange something. Telephone Eithne or Maxine on 928 8501 x53/54.

EVENTS

LUNCH:

Free lunchtime rentals at St. Andrews Church, 307 St. SE1, starting at 1.10pm for about 1/2 hour - come and go as your lunchtime allows.
Fridays 11th February
French Horn, Organ & Piano
play Schumann and various other
18th Feb: Organ, various composers
25th Feb: Violin, organ and piano.

Wednesday 16th February, 8pm at Southwark Cathedral:
Morley College Choir and Symphony Orchestra, play Brahms, Britten and the first performance of 'Thamesis' by Searle. £2.50 or £1.50 students and OAPs.

OLDE TYME MUSIC HALL
Mondays, 1.30 to 3.30pm at Lambeth Town Hall, Acre Lane, SW2. 50p Box office 622 6655 ext.355
February 14th: your very own Valentine - Miss Jean Wren and company
March 7th: London Pride, Laurie James, Dennis Matthews, Jean & Jackie Dawson and your chairmen Alan Wells.

EXHIBITION

'Digging up the smoke' at the Cuming Museum, Newington Library, 155 Walworth Road, SE17. Free.
In addition to the Cuming's permanent display on the history of the Borough of Southwark, which is very interesting by itself, there is a special display on the history of clay pipes in Southwark. Ring 703 3324 for more details.

FREE CLASSES FOR THE UNEMPLOYED
in weight-training, art and fashion design, keep fit and dress making. Monday, Wednesday and Thursdays 2 to 4pm at the Paragon School, (Club of Dance and Self Defence), Searles Rd, SE1 (403 1654). Centre open from 12 noon.

COMMUNITY IN ACTION: an exhibition of the various activities of groups in the SE1/SE11 area. Opens 6 to 9pm Tuesday February 8th at the Morley Gallery, 61 Westminster Bridge Road, and then for a month to 4 March.

tenant news

NEW T.A.

On learning that our flats were to be upgraded, some tenants thought it would be a good idea to start a tenants association. A particular concern was that we badly need new window frames, and had found out that they are not going to be done until 1983-84, that if they can spare the money. All of us are pleased about the improvements, that is to say to the outside of Windmill House. As far as we can find out, we are going to be enclosed for safety, have entry phones put in, car parking, and it will make it more private for tenants. It is already a private road, but no one seems to believe it. Inquiries about our flats show yes it is private.

It will be a great help to all of us when the improvements are done. We are only waiting for the approval of Lambeth Borough Council. Then the GLC can go ahead. We have seen one lot of plans, but hope to see more at our next meeting, and will put our views.

Lou Shepherd, TA representative.



ORIENT BUILDINGS

'At last! A place to live with a bath and hot water!'

This may well be the reaction of the tenants of Orient Buildings when they hear that they are to be moved out ('decanted' in the jargon) of these turn of the century flats. As well as no bath, and no hot water, the flats also have toilets outside on the balcony, dampness and problems of rubbish building up in the backyards. Rats have been seen. The basement flats are so bad that they have been empty for 8 years, as they are unfit for human habitation.

'SE1' interviews Councillor Terry Rich about exactly what was happening:

"I asked questions at the (Lambeth) Council about these flats as soon as I was elected. (Last May)," he said. "Now that Labour are in power, we have been able to make a decision to decant the 25 flats, and then demolish them."

All tenants will be visited by council housing officers as soon as possible to ask them where they would like to move to. They can then be moved out as soon as an acceptable flat is available. Money has been put aside in the 1983 to

EX GLC HOUSING MONEY CUT!

The rehabilitation of some houses in the Stamford Street/ Aquinas Street is likely to be delayed due to cuts in the GLC's housing budget. The GLC estimated that £675,000 was needed to make the houses habitable but due to cuts, this money might not be available in this financial year. The government gave the GLC only half the amount of money needed to carry out their essential repairs and renovations programme across London. Tenants at a Kennington District Housing Committee meeting in Lambeth were given an assurance that work in the 1982/83 programme which had not been started would be carried out, but they were then asked to prioritise work for the '83/'84 year. This programme originally included work on houses in Stamford Street/ Aquinas Street, environmental improvements in Tanswell estate and repairs to warped windows in Windmill House. Tenants priorities would be passed onto, at a Lambeth wide meeting with councillors and officers, and the GLC. Although Lambeth now owns ex-GLC property, the GLC remains financially responsible for bringing them up to a decent standard and they have ten years in which to do it.



WATERLOO EMPLOYMENT PROJECT

The Waterloo Employment Project is running a two day course especially designed to help local people with their job hunting problems.

Using local Personnel Officers, we'll be covering topics ranging from how best to write to employers to answering those awkward questions on application forms. We'll also be able to help you with the best way to present yourself at an interview and you'll have the chance to individually take part in a 'mock' interview run by a personnel officer.

The course will also cover the type of problems you might encounter in a new job, particularly if you haven't worked for a while. We'll also be able to advise you about special problems such as having a criminal record.

It's FREE, your benefit will not be affected, and if you have children, we'll provide a creche completely free, too.

So why no drop in to see us, or ring 928 8024 for further details. Places are limited, so it's first come, first served.

WATERLOO EMPLOYMENT PROJECT, COLOMBO ST. CENTRE, SE1

NEW CENTRE

Saturday 4th December saw the opening of a centre especially for the unemployed, which has been set up and managed by the unemployed.

Southwark Unemployed Peoples Action was set up two years ago to fight for more jobs, more money and better facilities for the unemployed. It has worked alongside the Trades Council and local trade unions in fighting redundancies, campaigning for reduced working hours to create more jobs, more staff in the overworked Unemployed and DHSS offices, and for getting the centre going.

With the help of the GLC and Southwark, the newly opened centre at 83 Peckham High Street will provide a place for the out-of-work to meet socially, with free tea and coffee. There is a small library of newspapers, magazines and books, and a special room for children to be looked after by responsible adults, so that parents can be fully involved in the centre activities.

There will also be an information service about facilities and services which the unemployed can use, to get jobs or use the free time they have. The centre hopes to be a complement to such services, and help to provide a worthwhile

existence for the unemployed, and make them realise that they have rights and identities too. It will be used, most importantly, as a campaigning base, as well.

Southwark Council are providing the premises and running costs, while the GLC is paying for 2 full-time workers. A youth worker is also based there, courtesy of ILGA.

So if you are unemployed, why not see what the centre can offer? Call in at 83 Peckham High Street (near the traffic lights with Rye Lane or ring 732 9777 for further details. Help can be given on filling in the complex new forms which you have to fill in when signing on, and advice given on rights, especially those for women.

TERRY RICH,
YOUR LOCAL LABOUR
COUNCILLOR.....

holds his surgery every
Thursday evening 6.45 to 7.30
at China Walk Tenants Hall,
Lambeth Walk, SE11.

1984 council budget to do the demolition, so things should move quickly.

Cllr. Rich was anxious to point out that tenants can get advice on what rights they have in 'decanting' from the Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road, SE1, or from local councillors.

He also wished to add that he thought it very bad that something hadn't been done before. He went so far as to say that the tenants had "the worst conditions of any council tenants". He was backed up in this by a survey he did of all the flats. Most

people's reactions were that they should have been pulled down ages ago. One housebound elderly tenant was worried about how she would cope in a new place, but it should not be impossible to satisfy her.

The last word to Cllr. Rich: "Matters would have happened much sooner if local community groups had not been so defensive about the areas they cover. Orient Buildings in Hercules Road falls just outside the area covered by the Association of Waterloo Groups, and so got left out."

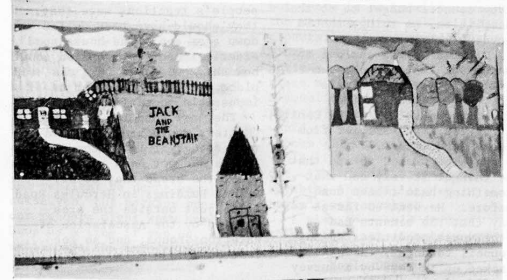
COIN ST.
FOR HOMES
NOT
SPECULATORS



PANTO
PAINTINGS

Just before this issue of 'SE1' was put together, we managed to get the results of the painting competition run by the Waterloo Amerties Group. The winning paintings, done by local schoolchildren, were on display at the special showing of the Young Vic's new panto 'The Last of the Lollops'.

Both pensioners and the children seemed to be enjoying this free preview when our photographer paid a flying visit. Prizes for the competition, which was based on the theme of 'pantomimes'



THE A.W.G. PLAN.

WHAT THE AWG PLANS WOULD MEAN FOR SE1....

The AWG scheme for the Coin Street sites would provide 390 homes mainly low rise family housing with gardens for rent, which local people could afford. This would be for about 1300 people in all.

Workshop and light industry space could provide about 650 jobs within two years. There would also be shopping facilities provided.

VIEWS ON THE STREET.

COIN STREET DEVELOPMENT LOCAL VIEWS

SE1 went onto the streets surrounding the sites which are to be developed, and asked local workers and residents for their views on the Coin Street controversy:

Mr. Samuel Elithorne, a retired Post Office worker, and resident on the Peabody Estate.

SE1: Did you know that the Ministry of the Environment has twice overuled the findings of public inquiries into what should be built here?

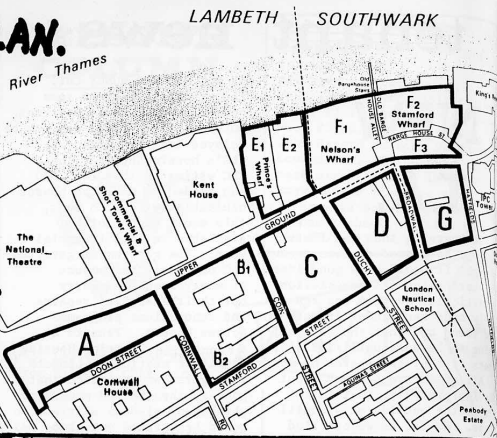
Mr. E: "You mean that they're going to stick up some more office blocks?"

SE1: Do you think that's a good idea?

Mr. E: "What's the use in objecting...no if it was a thousand to one it would still go against...once they've made up their minds."

were given out at the end of the show, on 28th January. First prize for 5 to 7 years went to Tracey (whose picture is in the right of our photo) For 8 to 9s it went to Paul Barquinha, for his Mother Goose. The 10 and 11s prize was shared between Dawn Pritchard and Kate Smith.

There were also prizes for group projects: the children here also produced some writing about the pantos. The winning entries were on 'King Magnus', 'Kate Beatties Circus', 'Spring Song' and 'Oliver Twist'.



The Manager and wife of Gough Brothers, Wine Merchants on Stamford Street.

SE1: Do you know that the government has granted planning permission to develop the derelict site in front of your shop?

Mr. "We've been told nothing...all we've heard is rumour which we don't know whether to believe".

SE1: What would you like to see being built there?

Mr. "A great big lake with 44lb carp swimming around in it".

Mrs. "I'd like to see a playground or something for the kids, or a supermarket...there's nowhere 'round here for the residents to go and buy anything...people either got to go down the Cut, which is sort of like putting 8p on everything, really expensive or you've got to go to Waterloo or the Elephant".

COIN STREET.

CONTINUED
FROM FRONT PAGE

4 acres (E and F on plans) from before the start of the inquiry. They also rushed through a dubious deal with the old GLC in April 1981 which meant that if they met certain conditions within 3 years they would get the rest of the land which is in GLC ownership.

But it is not a foregone conclusion that they will meet all the conditions by April 1984. They need to get further permissions on a road closure, the line of the river wall, and possibly other items.

They also need to get the money to build the scheme: something like £150 million. With the large amount of empty offices in London, financial backers such as pension and insurance funds might not want to touch a delicate and somewhat risky development,

SE1: What would you like to see built on these sites?

Ms. Hill. "I don't know really, anything - so long as it fitted in, perhaps some houses a swimming pool, or somewhere to go at lunchtime".

a total SHAM

Mrs. Rogers, resident of Whitlessey Street.

SE1: What do you think of the governments decision actually to give planning permission to a development scheme which an independent inquiry managed to throw out?

Mrs. R. "I don't know why they bother having them...it's just a joke...simply going through the motions in the right order so that at the end of the day when they throw them out, no-one can accuse them of not following constitutional procedure. It's just a sham, a total sham".

especially if they know of the local opposition to it.

Meanwhile, the Association of Waterloo Groups (AWG) has got the support of all 3 local councils (GLC, Lambeth and Southwark) and funds for building this housing and light industry scheme should not be too difficult to get. However, the land owned by GLC will need to be sorted out before any building of the scheme could begin. This will probably have to wait until April 1984.

In the meantime, the planning permission for Greycoats may be challenged in the courts. And the campaign to save the 'Oxo' tower, which is on Greycoats part of the land, will be revived. This is saved in the AWG scheme, but would disappear if the office plans went ahead.

Watch out for information on what you can do to help the AWG plans become a reality.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS ?

A very successful showing of 'A Story of Waterloo', a tape-slide show produced by local resident Mike Bruce on the history of the area has prompted the following memories from Mrs Eaton, now living in SW9.

The showing at the Young Vic was organised by Waterloo Amerties Group for 26th November, and was attended by almost 100 people.



The Young Vic Theatre, played host to a showing of the Tape slide show: 'A story of Waterloo'

May I say how much I enjoyed your show the 'Story of Waterloo' I was born in the Lambeth Road in 1911 in a house where many theatrical people lived, including (so my mother said) Matheson Lang. We then moved to Orient Buildings, Hercules Road, which flats are still standing. From there we went to North Street in Hercules

'mean and rough'

Road at the corner where the 'Pineapple' stood. This was a very rough street, full of mean houses, which has since been pulled down and rebuilt, and is renamed Cosser Street. We later moved to Carlisle Street (now called Carlisle Lane) which runs by the side of where the Canterbury once stood. The soap factory 'Fields' was in this turning, beside and underneath the Railway Arches.

We usually went to the 'canterbury' twice a week. At that time we saw silent films (2 pictures) and 6 stage turns in between. These were first class turns given by well known artists of that time. All for the price of 4 pence and 6 pence.

'flor pit'

We sometimes went to the 'Gattis', which was considered much inferior, and known as a 'flor pit'. It showed at that time only silent pictures, accompanied by only piano music, whereas the Canterbury had an excellent orchestra and played all the classics when the pictures were showing. The main feature at the 'Gattis' was the serial film, usually featuring Pearl White or Mary Pickford, which finished in such an exciting way as to compel the audience to come again to see the next episode. This cinema entrance fee was 4 pence or 4 pence, and it was

quite usual to there with a bag full of sweat, fruit and lemonade and stay there for many hours.

I remember the ornate entrance hall to the Canterbury and often used to see Gunner Moore standing there greeting his patrons.

I attended the small school in Carlisle Street, attached to what was then the Anglo-Catholic Church, Holy Trinity.

This was considered quite superior to other schools in the neighbourhood. Once a week we attended the Waterloo Road school for either cookery, housewifery or laundry, and were quite upset by the roughness of the children there.

As there was no Catholic school close at hand, many foreign Catholic children attended Holy Trinity school, some of course were born in London of foreign parents. There were quite a lot of Italians (mostly living in Stangate) also French, German, Belgian, Dutch, Swedish, Irish, Scotch, and even some children on 'home leave' from India and Malta. There were no coloured children.

'Wom scholarships'

Many of the children did very well at this school, and won scholarships to the Central School at West Square, St. George Road, which was a higher grade school where the children left at 16 and not 14 as did those attending the Elementary School of Holy Trinity.

I did not live in Lambeth during the First World War, as I was evacuated to relations in Kent, where my parents came from.

Whilst living in Lambeth, I used to very much enjoy going down the Cut and Marsh on a Saturday night. The meat was practically given away at the last moment, and not put back in a fridge as it is today. There were very cheap fish and chip suppers to be had at

'Georges smell'

'Old Lews' or at Carpenters Eel and Pie Shop. The chief thing I remember about 'Georges' restaurant was the appetising smells coming up from the grating in front of the restaurant, and the poor, ragged people standing on the grating

trying to get warm and not being able to go in for a meal. (Such was the 'good old days'.) We also went into Cooks Pie Shop, which I see is still standing, although the proprietors must be long since dead.

I trust I have not bored you with this long anecdote, and will close with renewed thanks for a very enjoyable afternoon.

Mrs E.M. Eaton
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We are very grateful for Mrs Eaton sharing her memories with us. If anybody else has memories of North Southwark or North Lambeth as it used to be, 'SE1' would be delighted to hear from them. Contact us at 12 Meymott St, London, SE1.

But before then, Lambeth Council have got to make a decision on whether they are going to oppose the appeal at the public inquiry. As they were originally in favour, and only overruled by the GLC, they may find it hard to oppose it.

The planning sub-committee of the council meets on March 3rd at Lambeth Town Hall to decide. Local people are urged to attend, to make their views known. Get in touch with the Waterloo Action Centre (261 1404) if you want more details on the meeting. The Centre itself would be completely overshadowed by the office block if it was built.

DO VISIT OUR
LOCAL EXHIBITION

"COMMUNITY IN ACTION"

An exhibition to show the work done by community projects in North Lambeth & North Southwark.

At the MORLEY GALLERY
61 Westminster Bridge Road
From 9th February-4th March
Monday-Friday 10am-9pm
(Except Feb.21-26 10am-6pm)

PLEASE!
NOT ANOTHER ONE.

Another office block has reared its ugly head, all 21 storeys of it.

Burtons, the well-known menswear chain of shops, want to develop the site which they currently use for offices on the corner of Waterloo Road and Baylis Road. (They also have a shop there.) The main reason seems to be that they want to increase the value of the land they own, so that their accounts look better.



Lambeth Council have already refused planning permission for this application, but originally only because the GLC told them to. Burtons are appealing against this, so an inquiry will be held on April 19th.



Many people in Waterloo will have noticed that the gardens between Shaws and Finance for Industry's large tower on Waterloo Road has got into a bit of a state recently.

If you were a regular reader of the old 'SE1' you will know something of its history. A lot of work was put into turning a piece of derelict land into the 'Waterloo Movable Gardens', and most of it was done by volunteers. Money was raised from various firms.

Unfortunately what was going to happen after the gardens were established was never properly sorted out. And now it looks like the original reason of making it 'Movable', because the site was going to be used in a few years, no longer holds.

The Association of Waterloo Groups wants Lambeth Council to take on responsibility for maintenance of the gardens, clearing rubbish etc.

But it is also a golden opportunity for any local people who are keen on plants, but haven't got a garden of their own, to make suggestions of how they might use space and do a bit of gardening here. The British Trust for Conservation Volunteers have said that they could provide some tools for a day's use every now and then, and also somebody who has experience in looking after this type of open space.

If you have any ideas on how the gardens could be improved or looked after, please contact John Howes through Waterloo Action Centre, 16 Baylis Rd, SE1, phone 261 1404. Let's hope that this site will continue to be a pleasant break in the monotony of concrete and tarmac in the area.

CLUB
SUNDAY

VOLUNTEER WANTED TO HELP AT A CLUB ON SUNDAY EVENINGS, 6 to 10pm at the NORTH LAMBETH DAY CENTRE.

For further details contact LIS PRITCHARD at NLDC, 261 9622 daytime, ROYAL WATERLOO HOUSE, WATERLOO BRIDGE, SE1

GARDENING.

How many Xmas presents have already nearly become Xmas pasts? So many indoor pot plants given with such love at Xmas are already in the bin or looking very browned off. Water is probably the main cause, too much water will start the rot, or too little will cause in a dry (centrally heated) room will cause the leaves to brown at the edges and work its way into the middle of the leaf. Until the middle of March water sparingly unless your plants are in a hot dry atmosphere.

FERNS

If the leaves are brown and withering, now is the time to cut them carefully off at the base. There will be plenty of dormant buds in the crown. Once you have trimmed off the dead leaves, water the pot and you should soon see fresh green leaves appearing once again from the base.

CYCLAMEN

Do remember to keep your cyclamen in a cool light room remove any dead flowers and water from a saucer as the crown from which the leaves and flowers grow can rot if it gets soaked.

TIME TO THINK

What to grow in the window boxes this year? Why not consider choosing from the countless seed packets companies offer. As its name implies, an annual lasts for one year only and it has to do everything in a short space of time. It must grow from seed into a plant which produces an abundant growth of flowers, which in turn produce seeds before Autumn and winter frosts cut down and kill the plant. Annuals can produce thousands of seeds per plant to make sure that a few will survive the Winter and sprout up in the spring thus ensuring the continuation of the plant. To us gardeners, of course, we are not interested in the

gardening cntnd.

seeds but in the bright colours over a long period of time. Some annuals to consider for window box, large pots (or even an old saucepan) or sunny spot in a garden are the following. PHLOX DRUMMONDI and "TWINKLES" DWARF STAR mixed colours are an excellent variety. POPPIES, NASTURTIAN, LARKSPUR, GODIETTA CALENDULA (POT MARIGOLD), CAND - YUFT, EZSCHOLZIA, CORN - FLOWER, ANCHUSA BLUE ANGEL, LINARIA, LINUM, NIGELLA. All will grow early even in poor soil, though they need sun, and as a bonus they will sow their own seeds and pop up in odd places in the following year.

Pensioners' Party!

The Colombo Street Sports and Community Centre gave their usual 'Christmas Party and dinner' to 175 senior citizens on Tuesday 21st December, and it was the unanimous verdict of everyone there - it was a great success.

The menu for the meal: Vegetable soup; beef, carrots, potatoes, peas; the sweet, fruit salad and cream, mince pies and chocolate mints. Drinks: sherry, wine, lager, light ale, Guinness and soft drinks.

We were so please to note a remark made by one of the pensioners and endorsed by everybody around. He said "Blimey, better than the bloody Ritz or Savoy" and he meant it.

Thirteen prizes were raffled, such as Christmas puddings, box of Roses Chocolates, tin of biscuits, chocolate stem ginger, chocolate cherry liquers, and the star prize of Christmas hamper with assorted tins of fruit, ham etc and a bottle of Harvey Bristol Cream. Our booby prize was also a surprise, because that was also a hamper provided by the School of Printing (Elephant & Castle).

For entertainment and dancing, we used our record deck, and Ros and Bob sang various numbers - what a duo - still, bless'em, you can't shoot triers, can you. And we had a hurdy-gurdy man and an accordionist.

We would like to extend our thanks to the firemen, the St. Johns Ambulance brigade, and the local people who were really wonderful, and a special thanks to Oddie and June for their help - a great pair. Not forgetting the Stamford Boxing Club for their donation of fresh fruit.

George Cahill



Photo: D. H. H. H.

FRANK RIPS

Yes folks! Read in Peace FRANK'S FASCINATING WORLD

MONDAY: After all let's say if it's not one thing it's another. Eleven thirty. You're lying in bed trying to coax yourself back to sleep. I can't get up I still exhausted. I don't need to. I only had two pints last night. Suddenly the front door bell goes! You freeze for an instant (go away), at the second ring you're into action. Stark-chicken naked you sprint for the light switch. The cold air hits you, and by the time you reach the front door dressing gown and slippers your smothered yawns and shudders have opened your eyes to at least halfway. This helps you peek through the curtain just to make sure it isn't Mr. T.V. Detective Man. You grit your teeth, open the door, only to get a glimpse of some lone already walking down the street. So you rush out to the car, but as you call out to the 68 bus picks the car instant to thunder by. What's that man doing in dressing gown, do you think he's escaped from somewhere. By now you're feeling like a poor relation to a well-shod iceberg ('where the hell did I leave my other slipper?'); and as you start to turn back you hear the unmistakable sound of a front door slamming shut. Cry? I could have wept. But weepings not for me; after all I'm a man with a mission. A man who speaks his mind and tells the truth. Forget the Street of Shame if it's facts you're after FRANK the name. Did you know that

47 p.c. of MPs went to public schools, compared with 5 p.c. out of British total population. The going rate for donating a jar of sperm (sic) to a hospital is about £1 for white male caucasians and twice that if you are West Indian, Arab, or Chinese. Donors who wear glasses are disqualified. The French drank 168 pints of wine per head last year, whereas us Brits could only manage a paltry 14 pints per head.

Australia could have a man in space by 1985, if all goes well with plans to launch that country's first communications satellite. The first non-American to fly in the shuttle will be a West German who is scheduled to ride with Spacelab 1 in 1983.

Cases of genital herpes increased by 13 p.c. between 1979 and 1980 (from 9,500 to 10,800). The probation service supervised 160,000 people in 1981, 6 p.c. more than in 1980.

For the first time since the Industrial Revolution over half of Britain's labour force is now in non-manual occupations. A bicycle with an automatic transmission will be in the shops this spring. The transmission has 16 gears and is changed entirely by foot pressure. Weighing in at 1.6kg the mechanisms will cost you £50.

The total world population estimate for mid-1982 is 4,585 millions. The average temperature for a February day in Mombassa, Kenya is a mere 33°C. The population of the UK is 56.1 millions, whilst the population of Denmark is 5.1m, and Argentina is 28.6m.

Dolly Parton is 37. Between 1938 and 1978 19 million VW Beetles were produced. The population of China is a massive 1000million, whilst that of the USSR is 270m, and the USA a mere 232million. On an average day, 16 people are killed on British roads.

The greatest seller of any gramophone record to date is 'White Christmas' by Irving Berlin, with 25m for the Crosby single, and more than 100m in other versions. 47p.c. of British bats (sic) live in houses built since 1965. AND NOT MANY PEOPLE KNOW THAT.

See ya - FRANK. 16-19. Is this you, or someone you know? He or she may be depressed or anxious, could be painfully shy, might be recovering after a breakdown or just a very difficult time; might be handicapped or might just feel lacking in confidence and unable to cope. Whatever the situation we would like to help. Ring Pickwick Youth Project on 633 0383 Monday to Thursday 10.30 to 5.30, and ask for Jerry or Stevie.

NORSPAG

The North Southwark Pensioners Action Group still meet every second Thursday at 2.30p.m. at Borough Community Centre. New Members are always welcome, so please come along and meet us. Jim McDougall.

GOOD NEWS

A number of groups in the SE1 area have been allocated funds under a new GLC policy called the Community Areas Scheme. The GLC has designated six community areas of which the South Bank is one (Hammersmith, Fitzrovia, South Hackney, Spitalfields, and Southall are the other areas).

The six community areas are, with the exception of Southall, all within inner-city areas; and like the South Bank many of the inhabitants of these areas have been driven away by high rents, a diminishing number of jobs (for local people), and the communities as a whole have been threatened and endangered by the spectre of office and property developers.

The criteria for being eligible to receive money under the Community Areas Scheme is that groups and organisations who have applied for financial assistance have to be developing projects that 'are of benefit to the community'.

acquiring land or buildings

The money that has been made available is mainly for capital schemes. That is, schemes that are used for 'acquiring land or buildings, carrying out building works and repairs etc'. Waterloo Action Centre for example has received about £60,000 for much needed repairs to the building, and building work that will expand the space available for the many groups that use the Action Centre.

£77,965

Other groups in the SE1 area that have received funds are:

- *Borough Community Centre (£29,767).
- *Pickwick Youth Centre (£77,965).
- *Colombo Street Sport & Community Centre (£35,000).
- *Tabard Gardens TA received £26,950 to establish a community nursery and to equip a playground. The nursery will be at 26 Strood House.
- *Weber Row Tenants Association (£1500).
- *Nelson Square T.A. received £6,159 for playground equipment in Nelson Square gardens.

These funds are desperately needed by areas such as North Southwark, and Waterloo. Not only does the 'Community Areas Scheme' show a level of much needed political support, but it also gives local communities the opportunity to strengthen and consolidate their schemes in the face of planners who invariably plan against their needs.

ELEC ≈ TRICITY CHEAP? &

Do you only use a small amount of electricity? If so, you may well gain from a scheme the LEB, who supply London's electricity, started this month.

All LEB customers have to pay a 'Standing charge' just to stay connected to the supply. In future, if you use so little electricity that the charge for the actual amount used is less than the standing charge, the standing charge will be reduced, so that is the same amount.

Further details are available from LEB showrooms and offices.



Yuletide follow-up

On Saturday 4th December, Christmas arrived a little early at the Borough Community Centre in Southwark Bridge Rd. Linda and her worthy band of volunteer helpers entertained 110 local kids. They all had a fantastic time, due to the kind generosity of some wonderful people who gave freely of their time and generosity. There was plenty of food for all.

Entertainment was supplied by Yvonne and John, the keep fit instructors who hold their weekly sessions in the Centre. They did a very good take off of 'Popeye and Olive Oil'. John also gave a good show of the Robot. It certainly gave the kids something to talk about afterwards. And of course Santa Claus: no Xmas party would be complete without him.



THEFT!

from Cornwall Road over New Year weekend.

Owner will pay a large sum of money for RECOVERY OR INFORMATION leading to recovery of these VERY PERSONAL gold jewellery items of emotional value. Items include necklaces, bracelets, bangles, rings of gold and platinum diamond studded.

Please contact AL DHALLA 429 0984 or 928 2433.

{Southwark} Tenants' News

"At a time when so many issues affecting tenants are in the melting pot, a strong independent (tenants) federation is essential." So says the Southwark Group of Tenant Associations in its latest mail out.

The SGTAs is concerned that not enough Tenants Associations in Southwark are getting involved in the many borough wide issues which concern all tenants.

At its last meeting on 5th January, it decided to take a harder line with the council on getting ideas on tenants participation in council housing decisions into action. In theory, there seems to be an agreement that there will be tenants reps. directly on the council's Housing Committee. But despite Southwark doing away with the old, separate Consultation Committee, nothing has happened to fill its place. SGTAs wants the council to get its finger out!

Dave, our local beat-bobby, played a large part when he arrived with a well-filled sack: every child got something. It was wonderful to see the forest of happy faces enjoying themselves, and made all the hard work really worthwhile.

I would also like to say thank you to the Marshalsea Road T'nants Association, who did not forget their pensioners at Christmas. They held a raffle and the proceeds went towards giving each pensioner a lovely Xmas hamper. The comments and thank-yous that I have heard from the pensioners was really something: the hampers were well received.

This tenants association also looks after its kids, as I understand that they will be going to a pantomime soon. So they have something to look forward to. It makes everything really worthwhile when there are such good people about. So keep up the good work, folks! (Our picture shows Popeye and Olive Oil in action.)

Jim McDougall.

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

with the strong feelings held by many Waterloo residents.

However, the police do not appear to wish to object to the pub's licence even now. So it is down to residents to put across the arguments against Tatts getting it.

The GLC, who deal with such entertainments licences, have already been informed that:

car parking for residents is already difficult, and

a late night music pub will make it even worse;

this type of facility is not suitable in a residential area;

in particular, the late noise would be an awful nuisance, as would be the increased number of drunken disturbances.

Dates for both the murder hearing and that for the licence are still to be set as 'SE1' goes to print.



BY-ELECTION NEWS

The voters of Bermondsey will go to the polls on 24 February in a by-election to choose a successor to Bob Mellish who resigned at the end of last year as an MP in order to concentrate on his job as vice-chairman of the London Docklands Development Corporation - a body set up by Michael Heseltine to speed up the commercial development of docklands and circumvent planning controls formerly exercised by the boroughs.

The candidate for Labour will be Peter Tatchell who has now received the full backing of Michael Foot and Labour's National Executive Committee following earlier controversy about his views on the role of Parliament.

The Tory candidate is Robert Hughes, who works for the BBC, and the Liberal candidate is barrister Simon Hughes.

The former leader of Southwark Council, John O'Grady, is standing in opposition to the Labour Party as an independent. An attempt by some members of the SDP to persuade the Liberal candidate to stand down for the Alliance to back O'Grady as the anti-Labour candidate was rejected by the SDP leadership, it is thought because the Liberals are bitterly opposed to John O'Grady.

Eighteen candidates are reported to be seeking election as SE1 goes to press and these include a communist, a "revolutionary

communist", several racists, yet another "independent Labour", and a member of the Ecology Party.

The by-election is likely to attract a great deal of publicity but as one of Labour's safest seats the result is not really in doubt in spite of the challenge to Labour from the "independents" whose support, if any, is probably only in one or two Bermondsey wards.



COME AND LIGHTEN OUR DARKNESS
ON 16th FEB

GOING? GONE - more cuts

SOUTH BANK 'HOTEL' TURNS INTO OFFICES

The shell of what was meant to be an hotel on the South Bank untouched since 1976, is now to be turned into offices, equivalent to 3 Centrepoints. The former Environment Minister Michael Heseltine, gave permission for this change in December.

Ted Bowman of the North Southwark Community Development Group said:

"Heseltine has gone against the wishes of the local community, the borough council and the GLC. He is continuing to grant office permissions even though demand for space by potential tenants has collapsed.

"An area of the riverside which originally (in 1965) was to be predominately residential is now going to be a sterile office wilderness. Mr Heseltine has been a disaster for our riverside."

Regular SE1 readers may recall the various stages that this development went through. It was originally meant to be a balance between offices, the hotel and residential. The residential was gradually reduced until it was a few luxury flats, and the hotel has now disappeared entirely.

ONE YEAR ON

COME AND CELEBRATE

CALLING ALL SE1 READERS:

'SE1' re-appeared in December 1981 after a nine month break. So it's just over a year since the new style paper came out. What do you think of the issues so far? Are there ways you would like to see it change? Are there things it should be covering, but isn't? Do you find it interesting or useful?

If you have any opinion on these questions, we would like you to come along to our first anniversary celebrations. There will be drink and chat - but also we will be talking about how well SE1 is covering your views, news, group reports and other useful information and local news and interests.

It will be a chance to meet people involved in the paper and those active in local groups and campaigns. Perhaps you might also learn a bit about how the paper is put together.

We look forward to meeting you on February Wednesday 16th 7pm at Blackfriars Settlement, 44 Nelson Square, SE1.

If you would like more details, or generally want more information, contact John on the numbers given below.

OUR NEXT ISSUE will appear on March 5th. All contributions must reach us by Wednesday 23rd February at 12 Meymott St, SE1. We welcome articles, adverts, information etc.

You can contact us by phone by ringing John on 928 4748, or leave a message at Waterloo Action Centre 261 1404, or Rob on 735 5168, or Nick on 261 911.

COME TO YOUR LOCAL
YOUTH HOSTELLING GROUP
(LONDON INTERNATIONAL)

WE MEET EVERY TUESDAY AT 7.30PM

AT 39 CORNWALL ROAD
off STAMFORD STREET
WATERLOO

ACTIVE SOCIAL & OUTDOOR PROGRAMMES

ALL AGES WELCOME