

SE1

MARCH '83 15p MONTHLY. NUMBER 13

SAVE OXO

Local people have launched a campaign to save a prominent South Bank landmark, the Oxo Tower. (Picture back page.)

It has been looking down on the Thames for more than 60 years now and has become so familiar that most people don't even know that the Tower is threatened. But the danger is very real.

The problem is that the Stamford Wharf area, including the Tower, is the property of Lord Vestey's company. And it is clear that there would be no place for the Oxo Tower among the proposed wall of offices.

Property developers have a reputation for pulling down anything which gets in their way. Remember what happened to the Firestone Factory in 1979? It disappeared in the course of a single weekend.

The only way to avoid the demolition of a beautiful old building is to persuade the Department of the Environment to "list" it. But so far the DOE has refused to do this in the case of the Oxo Tower.

What we have to do is let the government know that we are tired of other people deciding what our area should look like. If the Oxo Tower is pulled down it will mean that one more part of Old Waterloo has gone for good.

But not only that. we would see even more unwanted office blocks put up in its place.

The people involved in the Campaign are arranging publicity in the press and on the radio. But support is needed from the people of Lambeth and Southwark. Watch out for the leaflets and petitions which will be going round. And better still, write in to tell us why you don't want to see the Tower pulled down. Tell us about your memories of the Tower, especially when it used to be lit up at night. If you support us, we'll let the authorities know. Write to:-

*Save the Oxo Tower Campaign.
22 Roupell St. SE1.*

(There will be an article on the history of Stamford Wharf and the Oxo Tower in the next issue of SE1.)



WHAT FUTURE?

Bermondsey readers will be familiar with the battle to keep St. Olaves Hospital open in some shape or other which has been going on since the in-patients department was closed in 1979. The District Health Authority for Lewisham and North Southwark, which now controls it, will be taking a decision later this year. But your views have to be in by March 31st if they are to be taken into account.

The Community Health Council for the District was out in

force on a cold Thursday in February getting views from shoppers in 'The Blue'. By midday, they had over 100 responses. A particular concern of many was the effect the closure of the in-patients had had on the elderly, who now had to use a very poor public transport service to get to Guys Hospital. One man with arthritis has to walk from Southwark Park Road to Guys! There was a strong need for somewhere local for injections, which was the main reason for the trip.

The discussion document put out by the District Health Authority gives a wide range of possibilities for St. Olaves, from re-opening it fully, to closing it completely.

The most positive suggestion seems to be re-arranging the services at the hospital to meet the particular needs of the local community. The CHC points out that Bermondsey has had a long reputation in innovation in health matters, and a radical re-think of what a local hospital could provide might well fit in.

If you want to know more, and give your views, contact the CHC at 13 Catford Broadway, SE6 or phone Celia or Jenny on 690 8777.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF IT SO FAR?

You'll probably say 'Rubbish!' when 'SE1' put this question at its public meeting on February 16th, there were some helpful comments.

After a year, the few people producing this paper wanted to get some idea of what others thought of 'SE1', and how it could be improved.

Points on the back included amazement at the amount of information in the paper;

giving a style everybody can

understand; good on variety and presentation. Even "Its smashing" and "the best local paper in London"!

On the other hand, some said it is lacking in human interest, and needs more colour in the articles. What is in it for the ordinary local resident? Perhaps the writing has got stale as it is the same people all the time doing it.

There was no shortage of ideas put forward on improving the

paper. A regular campaigning column was suggested, and slots for different groups: youth, pensioners, women etc. We should announce well in advance that we are going to do a feature on a particular area or group etc. so that readers can send in their contributions. Perhaps 'SE1' is too varied, & we ought to concentrate on one subject each issue, making it the 'flavour of the month'.

Interviewing people in the streets with tape recorders was mentioned as a way of getting local views, which often would be quite lively. Community workers should be pressurised

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE

the local newspaper!

join us

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

To contact us, ring John on 928 4748, or leave a message at Waterloo Action Centre (261 1404) or ring Rob on 735 5168.

GINGER BREAD

Kennington & Waterloo Gingerbread meet every Tuesday evening at Lambeth Mission 7.30-9.30 pm. Kids are welcome too!

We have just raised £66 from a jumble sale at the Mission and hope to raise a lot more from the disco we are holding at Colombo Street on March 26th. Further details and tickets obtainable from Gina Flett 582 6136. This money will be used to subsidise a holiday at Ladbroke's Seashore Camp at Great Yarmouth for lone mums, dads and kids.

Letters

I have just read your article about Orient Buildings. It is horrific that such conditions still exist in a relatively wealthy country in the 1980s. What I was actually surprised by however, was the end of the article. Councillor Rich is quoted as saying 'Matters would have happened much sooner if local community groups had not been as defensive about the areas they cover. Orient Buildings in Herclular Road falls just outside the area covered by the Association of Waterloo Groups, and so got left out.'

Well, it may fall outside AWG's area, but it falls within the area of Lambeth Housing Department who are the people with the responsibility, the power and the money, within the area of Lambeth councillors, within the area of the Labour and other political parties, and within the area of the North Lambeth Neighbourhood Council (which the Council helped establish in 1972).

Yet the reason no attention has been paid is that it is not in AWG's boundary! What a compliment to the voluntary efforts of local people who form community groups in Waterloo. What a condemnation of the people who have the official responsibility!

Yours sincerely

Jenny Stiles

STORY OF WATERLOO

Many readers will already have seen the first three parts of this tape-slide show about Waterloo's past up to the beginning of the second world war. The story over the past 70 years is largely told by local people who can remember of first hand what it was like living and working in the area.

Part 4 is now being put together. It will be about living through the blitz in Waterloo and about the massive post-war clearance of streets and warehouses by the river to make way for the Festival of

Britain.

If you lived in or near Waterloo at this time, and would like to contribute to the "Story" please let us record your memories of life in those days. You don't have to have done anything special, only to have been there. (If you were in the Air Raid Warden Service, the Fire Service, the Home Guard, etc, that'd be a bonus.)

If you are interested, get in touch with Mike Bruce at 46 Roupell St, SE1 (928 6076 evenings) or leave a message at the Waterloo Action Centre.

ELEPHANT BAND

Pupils from nine schools in or around SE1 had a chance to play alongside members of the London Symphony Orchestra on 15th February. 60 young musicians who make up the Elephant Consortium Band attended the LSO's rehearsals in the morning and met the players.

In the afternoon, the youngsters benefitted from some of the LSO's players passing on their tips at a rehearsal of the Elephant Band at St. S. viours and St. Olaves School. (Pictured here) The Band first split up into sections and each section had a thorough practice, before combining together later for a complete run through.

The Band members saw the LSO in the evening in full performance at the Royal Festival Hall.

One member of the LSO spoke to 'SE1' about how well he thought the pupils did. He was impressed with their standard of playing, and thought that much of the day was about 'breaking down the barriers'.

"You don't have to wear a penguin suit, and play in a professional orchestra to be a good musician or appreciate music. Ordinary kids from an area like SE1 have nothing to be ashamed of in their playing."

The day was paid for by the by the Inner London Education Authority.



BLACKFRIARS WRITERS GROUPE, WAS MADE FOR YOU.

Do you write?

We are told to use all our resources. Our most underused resource, is ourselves. Do you write?

How do you feel?

Are you hurt, sad, or feeling a little mad, maybe happy and glad? Maybe there is something, you feel that you must say. Please write it down on paper.

Remember what you feel is important.

Do you write?

Are you working on your first novel, or a play?

Are you writing poems, short stories, or just the odd doddle? If not.

Would you like to?

Do you write?

We will give you support and friendly advice.

Help you say what you mean.

Do you write?

Please come on Thursdays, To Blackfriars Writers Group.

Contact:- Blackfriars Writers Group, Blackfriars Settlement, 44, Nelson Square, London SE1. Tel: 928 9521

A BIGGER SPLASH

Lambeth Council don't seem to be too sure on what to do about the South Bank. On the one hand, they have rejected application for a warehouse to become a helicopter maintenance workshop on the river front. Kings Reach (where 'copter' land on a barge moored there). On the other hand, they came through an application from GLC for a pier near Waterloo Bridge without much thought or knowledge about how it would fit in.

We reported the plans for the helicopter workshop in our Christmas issue. Local groups were strongly opposed to them. But even without these plans going ahead, 'copter flights over SE1 seem to be on the increase. An SE1 reporter saw two illegal uses of the landing barge in a couple of days - it is supposedly only legal to land or take off from the barge is floating on a high tide. Then it is part of the river, rather than a piece of land.

The plans for a 170 foot pier outside the Royal Festival Hall will add to the pressure on what foreshore there is left which the public can use. SE1 understands that the pier will be a re-furbished one which was originally at the Battersea Festival, and will not make a beautiful addition to the riverside.

It seems odd that Lambeth Council rushed through this plan, when there is another application for mooring a couple of Thames barges at about the same place - one of which would be a floating restaurant. Although the council know about this proposal, they did not consider it alongside what is basically a competing application.

PLANNING

By the time you read this, an inquiry into a proposal to turn a vacant shop in Lower Marsh into a 'video games centre' (amusement arcade) will have happened.

Local traders are opposed to it as they feel it would be a nuisance to most shoppers, as it could attract the more rowdy youngsters. Local groups are opposed to it because of this, but also because it will be yet another shop lost in the area, so making it another retail outlet serving local people gone for a burton.

GONE FOR ANOTHER ONE

Talking about Burtons: a reminder that an important inquiry into the Burtons' application for a large office block on the site of their shop on the corner of Baylis Rd/Waterloo Rd takes place on April 19th. If you don't want to see any more offices pushing out local people and local jobs, get in touch with the Waterloo Action Centre, who can give you more details on what is happening that day.

FOR THOSE JUST OUT OF HIBERNATION:

Monday by-election result:	
Simon Hughes (Liberal)	17,017
Peter Tatchell (Labour)	7,698
John O'Grady	2,243
Robert Hughes (Tory)	1,631

MUNRO ACTION

This Action Group started in 1979 with the help of a placement worker, Barbara Tremlett, at Waterloo Action Centre. She chose three people to act as secretary, chairperson and treasurer, namely Francis Glover, Alan Chandler and Dolly Davey.

After Barbara left, Jennie Wilson came along to support us. We had very poor attendance, with about 8 regular attenders out of 80 flats. We felt we were getting nowhere. We gave a wine and cheese parties, and only 2 or 3 tenants turned up, and only one of them liked wine. This happened a couple of times. Slowly, more people started to come to the meetings, as we got more organised, and began to get the GLC Housing Manager, Peter Camp.

Then came the decision to 'package improve' the flats. Jean and I went to every flat to do a survey on how many tenants would like the improvements. It took us many nights and more hours. We were out sometimes until gone 11pm. Then we learned that we were (that is all, GLC estates) to be handed over to Lambeth Borough Council.

The group meetings became busy as tenants wanted to find out what was happening. Jean and I attended lots of meetings during this period, to get as much news as we could. Then after Lambeth Council took over, we were asked to register with them, so we could have more say, on the Kennington District Housing Committee.

Last year we took Mathieson Long House (in Frazier Street) under our umbrella. I regret to say that this has caused a rift with the Munro tenants, as every meeting seems to be bogged down with Mathieson problems. But it is early days yet, and we hope our tenants will come back to us - we intend to give limited time for each person to put forward their grievances. With problems which do not get cleared, after the meetings, we enlist the help of councillors to the ward. At the time of writing this, both our lifts are out of action - the one on Frazier Street entrance to Munro has been out of action since early of last year, with the exception of 2 days. We are trying to discover how we go about claiming the compensation that tenants are entitled to when lifts are out of order for some length of time.

Dolly Davey, pp Munro Action Group



HATCHING OUT

After 6 years of voluntary effort by a small group of local people, the Hatch Row Housing Co-operative development at the corner of Hatfields and Roupell Street is all but complete, and the future tenants have now been chosen.

The effort put in by the local steering group has been part of the drive by an increasing number of local residents and groups to get more family housing in

Waterloo to meet the acute housing shortage in the area. The GLC, which owns the site, originally proposed a student hostel there, but local people eventually persuaded them that a housing co-op scheme for families was more relevant and valuable for the needs of the Waterloo community. It has suffered a huge loss of families over the last 40 years.

The steering group of 7 people plus the Society for Co-operative Dwellings, has chosen the first set of tenants for the 15 houses and four flats. The choice was made primarily on the basis of the present housing need of the applicants, but local connections were important and the ability to get on in a co-op was taken into account.

There was a greater number of deserving applicants than there were places available. The steering group found it very difficult indeed to turn some applicants away. The steering group will shortly be handing over responsibility for Hatch Row to the tenants themselves.

Basically, as it is a housing co-op, tenants have to run all their own affairs (rent collection etc) and maintain the property themselves: there is no Council to ring up when the roof leaks or the communal grass area needs cutting. No tenant makes any money out of the scheme, and if they leave, the co-op has no responsibility for re-housing them.

Most important perhaps, when there are vacancies in the future, the co-op tenants are responsible for choosing at least half of the new tenants

(the other half coming from the GLC waiting list). It is intended that new tenants will be selected on the same basis as those already chosen. This should mean that some of the households currently being forced out of the area by the lack of suitable housing (eg newly married couples) can move into Hatch Row.

The houses should be completely finished by the middle of April. The architects are Shankland Cox, but most of the design choices were made by the steering group. However, the financial restrictions imposed by the Housing Corporation (the government body who provides the finance) are very stringent, and costs are cut to the minimum. This means for example that rooms are smaller than most people would ideally like. (A plan for continuing the design of Roupell St down to Hatfields had to be abandoned early on as it proved one of the most expensive.)

Hatch Row is the fourth housing co-op in Waterloo (Pearman St, Edward Henry and Wellington Mills being the others). If a viable community is to be maintained in Waterloo, it is vital that more are established because this is the only way to get government money for fair rent housing at present. Keep an eye out in 'SE1' for proposals on future co-ops!

PHOTO COURSE

SE1 hopes in the near future to run a basic photography course for people who have either no experience or only a limited experience of photography. The course would probably consist of several one or two hour sessions spread over several weeks with numbers limited to about half a dozen. At the end of the course we would hope to put aside one or two pages of SE1 for photos taken by participants.

Photography is an integral part of all newspapers and magazines, and SE1 is no

WALK — DON'T DRIVE

The public meeting held for the closure of Windmill Walk and one-way system for Greet Street went well although only about 20 people attended to put their views.

One resident of Ipsden Flats asked if it would be possible for 'sleeping policemen' (bumps in the road) to be placed in Cons Street, Windmill Walk and Greet St. This would slow down the cars being tested by the adjacent garages and avoid accidents with children. At the moment, this circuit is used somewhat like a race track.

The councillors and engineer from Lambeth Council said sleepers would not be a good idea as they have to think of spinal injury accidents being conveyed by ambulances using those roads.

In conclusion, one councillor suggested with the agreement of

the people in attendance at the meeting that we go for the immediate permanent closure of Windmill Walk, with one way northwards for Greet St. If this isn't passed by Lambeth Council, they would go for a temporary closure, providing this was satisfactory to the police, ambulance and fire officers, and refuse collectors.

We could then finally go for permanent closure, but of course this all takes a great deal of time, going through its committee stages. But we will keep on jogging them to remind them to do something conclusive about these roads.

I would like to thank all those who could not attend this, but who completed the forms on the leaflets which were sent out. Forty replies were received. 38 were in favour of closure. These will not be wasted, but will be sent on to the relevant departments at Lambeth Council to remind them of what we want: that is PUBLIC SAFETY.

We would like to thank the Association of Waterloo Groups for their valued assistance in this cause.

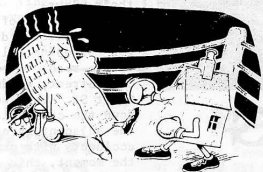
Len and Lou Shepherd, Windmill House TA reps.

exception. We think that a photography course would not only be a useful introduction to photos, but it would also be a way of introducing people to the activities of this paper.

We hope to sort out details of the course in the next few weeks. If you are interested, please contact Paul Ferman on 261 1404 Monday to Wednesday. More information in the next issue.

THANK YOU FOR VISITING LOCAL EXHIBITION

"COMMUNITY IN ACTION"



An exhibition to show the work
done by community projects in

North Lambeth & North Southwark.

It's our pleasure to take this opportunity to thank the 41 projects who exhibited at the 'Community in Action' exhibition at Morley Gallery, in Westminster Bridge Rd during February.

The most common response of visitors was to become totally overwhelmed by the variety and colour of the individual displays. Most people were very surprised at how much was going on around them, and on how attractive and informative the exhibits were. Thirty of the projects made a new presentation of their work for this exhibition - 23 for the first time ever doing a display! In the Community Education Project at Morley College, we are especially pleased for them, as they now have a display which they can take to other events and places around where they work.

The North Lambeth Library in Lower Marsh, Waterloo, has expressed its interest in putting a significant part of the exhibition on the long wall of the library. The Exhibition Committee very much hope that as many groups as possible agree to their exhibits moving on to the library, and to other places in the Borough and Kennington which are interested in putting them on show.

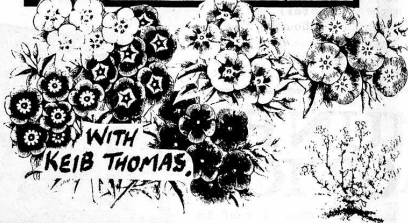
Thank you to everybody who contributed to the success of this event, whether by helping to organise and present it, by sending an exhibit, or by visiting. One early suggestion for next years community exhibition month at Morley Gallery is "Local community planning and management in North Lambeth and North Southwark". What do you think? Telephone us on 928 8501 or write to us at the C.E. Project, Morley College, SE1. Let us know your suggestions! Soon please!

Keib Thomas and Maxine Allison, Community Education Project, Local Exhibition Committee.

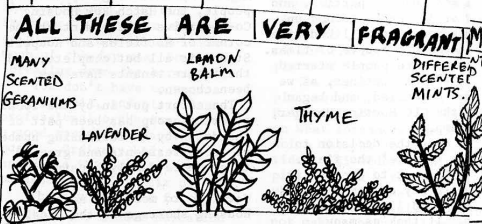


Peter Tatchell opening the Exhibition.

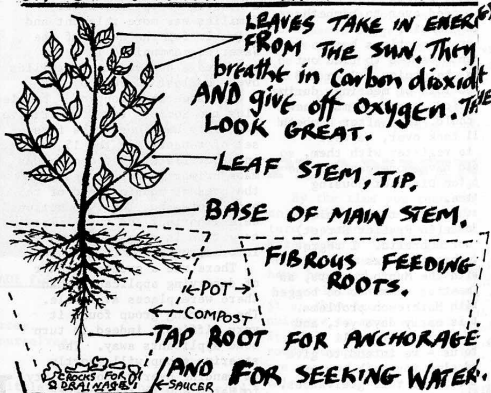
GARDENING.



DO YOUR FLOWERS SMELL?



HOW TO GET STARTED? HERE'S SOME VERY BASIC INFORMATION ON PLANT NEEDS...



In next months issue I shall deal with -
How to grow from seeds, how to repot new or old plants, how to plant dahlias, lilies and bulbs in pots, tubs, buckets or window boxes.

WATER CUTS ROCK!

Our 'one year on' public meeting on Feb 16th 1983, urged us to encourage local groups and people to become more involved in contributing to the reading material in this Newspaper. We know you have local writers and artists attending your school - Please help us by sending us the best of their words and DRAWINGS.

WE ESPECIALLY NEED POSTCARD SIZE ITEMS.

PLEASE SEND US YOUR JOKES.
CALLING ALL 'SEI' CHILDREN
PLEASE SEND US YOUR JOKES,
WE WILL PRINT THE BEST and
THE WORST!



WRITTEN AND DRAWN BY KEIB THOMAS,
AGED 36 (?) C.E.P., Morley College, SE1.

WE WANT YOUR JOKES

SEND THEM IN, WITH OR WITHOUT
DRAWINGS TO 'SEI' NEWSPAPER,
12 MEYMOTT ST., SE1.

ATTENTION LOCAL SCHOOLS.

SEI COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER IS ONE YEAR
and ONE ISSUE OLD. WE WOULD WELCOME
YOUR HELP IN CONTRIBUTING MONTHLY TO
A NEW CHILDREN / SCHOOLS PAGE.

CHILDRENS PAGE.

SEI Schools ESSAY Competition.

TITLES - 'My Family'
'My Street'
OR, 'My hopes for this
Summer holidays.'

SECTIONS - 7 yrs. and under.
9 yrs. and under.
11 yrs and under

ESSAY LENGTH - UNDER 200 WORDS

PRIZE - VISIT TO 'SEI' PRIZE.
SATURDAY AFTERNOON
NEWSPAPER.

The winners (with parents or teacher) will
be invited to paste in their own essays
into the MAY issue of SEI Newspaper.
Tea and biscuits + chance to learn about 'SEI'.

6 female

GLC GIVE WOMEN SEVEN MILLION

The GLC has put aside seven million pounds to be spent this year on projects which focus on women. Valerie Wise from the GLC's Womens Committee and a representative from Southwarks Womens Committee met about forty women in Spa Road Library to find out what concerned women in Southwark, and to discuss what help the GLC and Southwark could offer.

One woman who lived locally spoke about the increase in violence against women, and the way in which pornographic movies and snuff videos encouraged it.

Most of the women at the meeting were worried by this and several felt that their sons were being bombarded with material which degraded women and portrayed them as objects of violence. Most women felt that the GLC should use its licensing powers against films which encouraged this, although that on its own was not a solution.

There was concern about lack of adequate childcare facilities and the way in which women were being forced

the South Bank Bookshop

113 Borough Road, London S.E.1

Any first 12 months of a new venture is difficult, and a new bookshop is no exception. There is a constant balancing act, and customers can be very demanding, and have a right to be. The most difficult balance to find is how to maintain a small cozy local bookshop atmosphere without going bankrupt.

I personally want a bookshop to be filled with lots of free handouts, advice, local literature, fiction, history and the arts. However, the shop wouldn't stand on its own feet if we didn't have a broad range of stock. We try to keep a local flavour, and feature many local writers, like James Nelson and Eve Croft. But we also try to draw people's attention to important and sometimes neglected events. A perfect example is the centenary of the death of Karl Marx, where we will feature a wide range of material about him.

We try to stock non-sexist, non-racist material as far as possible. But what do you do if a feminist objects about the opinions of young hungry black man in Harlem because of its sexist content? The possible objections to different items are endless, and you could probably find substantial

back into the home by cuts in services. One woman spoke about the difficulties she had in getting her child into a nursery and how it was difficult getting information and help.

Valerie Wise spoke about the campaign which the GLC were supporting - encouraging women to sign on (more about this in the next issue of SE1), and she asked if a womens centre was needed in Southwark. A mobile womens bus was one of the ideas suggested!

The GLC want to encourage groups to apply for the money - closing date for applications is 31st March (although this might be extended).

Contact Ms. Claire Keating on the following phone number 01-633 3473 if you are interested. Room number 95DG/WSW at County Hall.

*Snuff videos are pornographic videos which show women being killed at the end of the film. There has been some evidence that women used in these videos were actually murdered in them, and the distributors making use of this in their blurb with provocative slogans such as 'Did she really Die?'

arguments for removing the entire stock of all the bookshops in London.

Our limitations are of space more than anything else, but of course out and out trash on anybody's terms will not be considered.

The local South Bank Polytechnic provides a basis for the continued existence of the shop, as our text books are particularly relevant. The shop is also building up its library supply side, and we hope that local librarians will support this local facility.

If the Library Supply continues to develop and can pay for all the major expenses of the bookshop, I am hoping we can afford to expand. I want the shop to be able to purchase something like an old London Transport bus, and fit it out as a sort of Magical Mystery Bookshop. Turning up at local events, housing estates, playgrounds with whatever relevant cheap literature available.

I am also hoping to make the shop larger by knocking down a wall. Perhaps by next autumn, serving food, drinks etc for people to sit down and read with. James Nelson figures very much in our plans. As our first venture in publishing, we would like to work with him on producing an updated 'No More Walls'.

I hope local people will continue to support the shop, and be enthusiastic about the developments we are planning.

Maurice Widowsky

COMRADE FRANK

Yes my little sputniks, win comrades and influence people with FRANK'S FASCINATING "FACT FILE".

MONDAY: I'd been waiting at the corner of Nebraska and Great Dover for nearly twenty minutes before I spotted Tooley's car. Tooley was an underpaid M.O.D. chauffeur who sold Ministerial secrets, and took side bets with friends on which country Britain would sell arms to next. For the past fifteen years he'd managed to combine a pint of whisky a day with a clean driving licence. He had an innocent kind-looking face.

I got into the Merc and told him to make tracks. There was a diplomatic bag on the back seat looking lonesome. I reached over and opened it up...

CONFIDENTIAL

* MARRIAGE? There were 146,000 divorces in 1981, 2 per cent fewer than in 1980. Twenty per cent of women over the age of sixteen have never been married.

* WATER! Physiologically we need 3 litres of water a day to survive, yet in Britain we actually use 300 litres per person per day. P.S. A normal size bath holds 150 litres.

* NARCOTICS! Port Everglades power station in Florida has been converted to burn marijuana confiscated by the local police forces. One tonne of marijuana has a thermal value of 2.7 barrels of oil.

* RACIST? Jews in Britain comprise 1 per cent of the population and have been well represented in Parliament for many years. The Asian and West Indian population by contrast hasn't produced a single MP since 1929. There are now 19 constituencies with a coloured population of more than 25 per cent.

* TINNITUS Is the latin name for an ailment which currently afflicts more than eight million people in Britain. Ringing in the ears (for that is what it is) tends to occur more the older you get.

* BELT UP! The impact which the new seat belt legislation will have on road injuries looks likely to be short lived if recent French experience is anything to go by. In 1978 tough French laws against drunk drivers initially reduced injuries by 13% but nine months later they had reverted back to within 5% of their original level.

* TAXI! In May 1980 there were 12,453 black taxi cabs licenced to drive on London's streets.

COMRADE FRANK

* SEX RATIOS There are 1054.7 females to every 1000 males at present in the U.K. Russia has the largest male shortage (1140:1000males), and Pakistan the largest woman shortage (885:1000)

* GRACEFULLY The percentage of people aged between 65 and 74 is expected to decrease by 13% between now and the end of the century. ALSO 3 of all people over the age of 65 in Britain live alone!

* POLICE In 1981, there were over 8067 occasions when the police reported criminals to be armed. 70% of these incidents were with air weapons.

* INDIA Over 1500 mother tongues are spoken in India.

* AMERICA In August 1982, there were 1,058 prisoners under sentence of death in the USA. Five prisoners have been executed since all executions in the country were halted for nearly a decade starting in 1967.

* EL SALVADOR Since the 1979 coup in which the Romero dictatorship was overthrown, at least 35,000 Salvadoreans have died in acts of violence. Of these a high proportion have either been the victims of the military themselves or of right wing death squads operating freely in areas under military control.

* CHILDREN! One in eight families is now a single parent family, and almost 90% of these lone parents are women.

* FIFTY FIVE per cent of the housing stock in Britain is owner occupied.

* THE MINING INDUSTRY has the highest proportion of heavy drinkers. AND NOT MANY PEOPLE KNOW THAT!

Seeya - FRANK.

P.S. Mine's a half (geddit?).

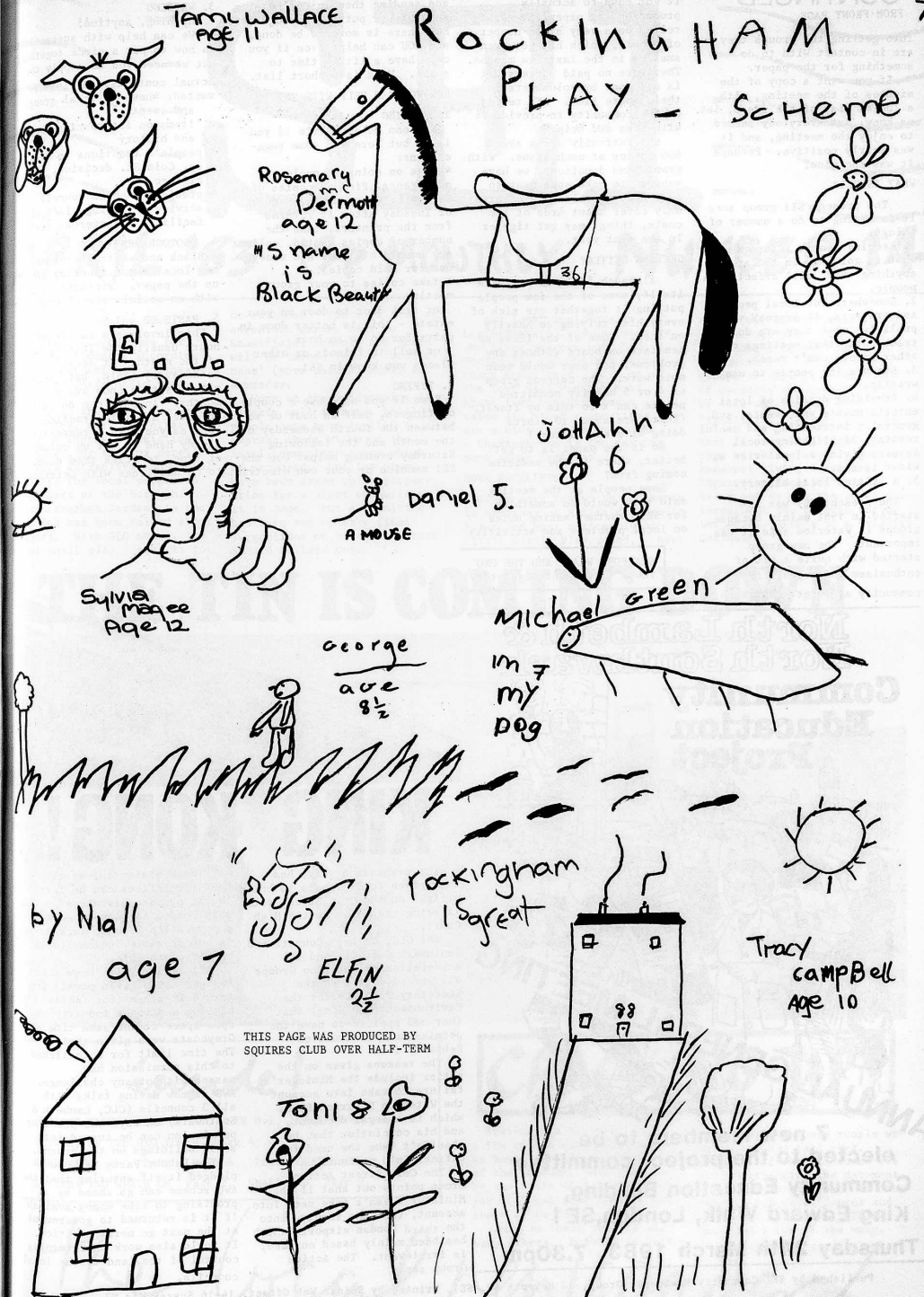
want a job?

The idea of preparing for a job might make you laugh (or cry). It seems strange to even talk about "work". It doesn't exist any more, does it?

Steph Blackwell and Liz Smith have other ideas. Bring half a dozen people together for two days and probe slowly and carefully through every conceivable thing that affects your chances of finding a job. It's amazing how a few simple tips on speaking clearly on the phone or filling out an application form can lift that heavy cloud of despair off your head.

What a relief it is to find out where you are going wrong in interviews. Confidence in yourself and your ability to do the simple things suddenly seems natural again. Talking with a small group of people brings you back into circulation as well. Funny how listening to other people's experiences and relating yours in turn is comforting. Sad to think how seldom unemployed people actually meet to discuss mutual problems.....

Give Steph and Liz a ring (928 8024). Its worth it.



into getting the groups they are in contact with to do something for the paper.

If you want a copy of the minutes of the meeting, with a longer list of the ideas, let us know. But everybody seemed to enjoy the meeting, and it was fairly positive. Perhaps it was the wine!

WHAT IS SE1?

The present SE1 group sees it as trying to do a number of things:

1. Keeping people informed on what is going on in the area: anything which will affect local people.
2. Somewhere for local people, and projects, to express views, publicise what they are doing, reach parts that meetings or other papers can't reach.
3. Encouraging people to use writing.
4. Providing details of local entertainments and events, and generally interesting and useful reading; highlighting local issues; giving a local view on wider issues.
5. A written local history.

The present SE1 was re-started in 1981 mainly because groups in Waterloo said it was important. The new group started with quite a bit of enthusiasm and support from the community at large. But when

it got down to actually producing the paper, it has relied on a very small number of people, which has got even smaller in the last few months. There are no paid workers: it is all done by volunteers in their spare time. SE1 relies on the community to provide it with news and help.

SE1 currently sells about 600 copies of each issue. With grants and donations, we have managed to make ends meet so far. But as sales and adverts only cover about 3rds of the costs, things may get tighter in the next year.

GETTING BETTER?

Although 'SE1' is not sick itself, some of the few people putting it together are sick of everything relying so heavily on them. Some of the ideas we can take on board without any problems, but many would mean more work. The current group of 4 or 5 heavily committed people can't do this by itself. (There are about 10 others doing bits and pieces.)

So if the paper is to get better, where is the medicine coming from?

Some people at the meeting said they would do something for SE1, whether making notes on local problems and activities

and sending them in; or helping selling; or putting it together. But there is more to be done, and YOU can help, even if you only have a little time to spare. Here is a short list.

HOW YOU CAN HELP WITH SE1

1. SELLING

You can do as little as you like, but here are some suggestions:

- * take on doing a couple of newsagents. Pick up copies of the paper every month, Monday or Tuesday after it returns from the printers, take the number of copies wanted, collect any unsold old ones and money due for sold copies.
- * take copies to your group meeting
- or sell door to door on your estate - this is better done in pairs for up to an hour
- or sell to friends or other places you know in SE1.

2. TYPING

Even if you only use a couple of fingers, half an hour or so between the fourth Wednesday of the month and the following Saturday evening helps. Use the SE1 machine or your own electric.

3. WRITING

Anything, anytime!

- We can help with suggestions on how to put a piece together, but we need you to supply the actual contents. Definitely wanted: *news of local groups and events;
- * items on interesting people and history
 - * people's reactions to events eg. Coin St. decision, shop closure
 - * problems such as council services, housing, lack of facilities, dangerous roads...

4. PHOTOGRAPHS

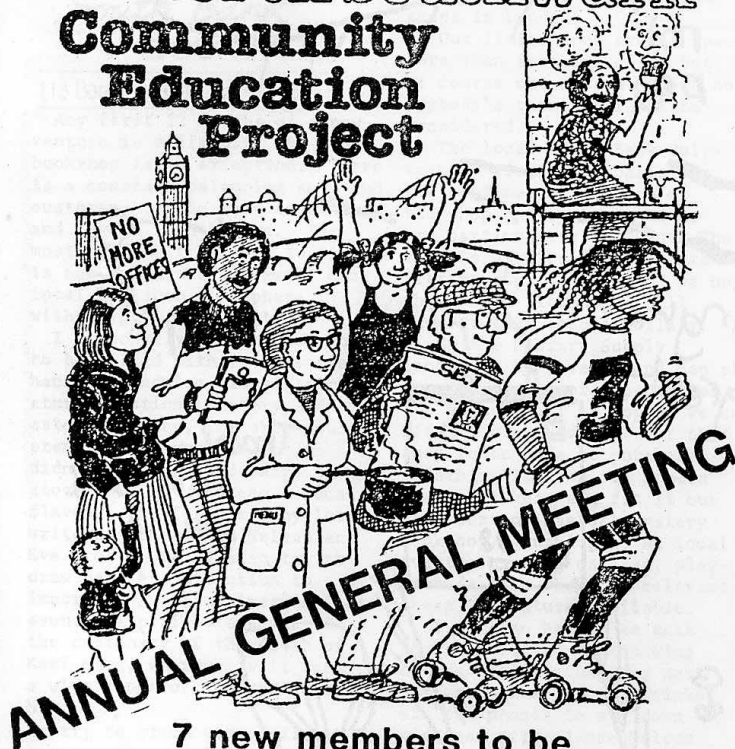
Black and white photos of any local event, meeting lived up the paper. Pictures to go with an article are also good.

5. PASTE UP

This involves a couple of hours usually the last weekend of the month. It doesn't have to be every month, but hopefully not less than once every 3 months. Anybody can do paste up after a little practice - as long as you have a reasonably steady hand to cut up columns of type, to stick them down, or to do headlines with Letraset.

STAMFORD WHARF AND THE OXO TOWER (see front page story)

North Lambeth & North Southwark Community Education Project



**7 new members to be
elected to the project committee**
**Community Education Building,
King Edward Walk, London, SE1**
Thursday 24th March 1983 7.30pm



KING KONG!

The permission which has been given to Greycoats to build offices on the Coin Street sites is being challenged in the High Court.

The GLC, Lambeth Council and Southwark Council, and the Association of Waterloo Groups all served notice on the Secretary of State for the Environment (Tom King) that they had applied to have the permission overturned on February 16th.

The reasons given on the notice include the Minister's failure to take into account the Waterloo District Plan, which is a legal document, and his conclusion that he shouldn't take the need for offices into account.

The Coin Street Action Group points out that if the Minister doesn't take need into account, then the inquiry into the third London airport, which has been mainly based on need, is irrelevant. The Action Group says:

"The Minister thinks the need for offices can be left to the private market: at a time when London is swamped with empty office blocks, such a view is unreasonable, unacceptable and irresponsible."

SE1 readers will know that AWG were also given permission for their scheme for family housing and light industry and open space at the same time as Greycoats were given theirs. The time limit for a challenge to this permission has passed without any challenge. AWG is now having talks with all 3 councils (GLC, Lambeth & Southwark) on ways the planning permission can be turned into solid buildings on the ground.

The Labour Party has now pledged itself ensuring that the AWG scheme can go ahead by promising to make money available if it is returned to government at the next general election. It would also work on returning control of the land to the local councils.