

SE1

OCTOBER '83. 15p MONTHLY. NUMBER 19.

CUT DOWN

The result of the public inquiry into the proposed 21-storey office tower on the site of Burtons in Lower Marsh has just been announced. The outcome is a major victory for Waterloo. The inspector said that the tower was 'out of scale' and would be 'over-powering', and threw out Burtons appeal.

The Association of Waterloo Groups and local residents gave evidence at the inquiry which was held in April and May this year after the GLC and Lambeth Council had been persuaded to oppose the Burton tower. The inspector has backed up the Waterloo District Plan and the plans to restrict office development. She said,

'The predominantly residential character of the area and the small-scale shopping centre will not benefit from another building'.

Quite right! Waterloo would have become a forest of office towers. The clear message of the decision is - 'no more tall office buildings'. The inspector also backed up AWG's arguments that there is no need for any more offices in this area.

SAVE OUR SCHOOL

The campaign to save the Holy Trinity School has gained considerable support from local people in Waterloo.

A vigorous campaign has ensured that the decision on the future of the school by ILEA has been deferred from its intended date in September. It is now hoped that the parents will be allowed until the end of this term to prepare their case for the continuation and possible expansion of the school.

Since the last issue of SE1 the parents have continued their hard work and the results of this hard work are beginning to show in the level of local support from both local groups and interest from prospective parents. The Association of Waterloo Groups has indicated its support for their efforts and Bishops Ward Labour Party has passed a motion supporting the parents and calling on all Labour representatives to do the same.

The Board of Governors who were originally doubtful of the continued future for the school have now agreed to reconsider



their view in the light of new evidence. In particular, doubt has been cast on the reliability of the figures produced by ILEA to justify closure and whether they take account of all new family housing in the area in the near future. It is also clear that there is considerable demand for additional nursery facilities in the area and the Holy Trinity School has both the accommodation and resources to provide this.

A tremendous amount then has been achieved in a short time but the school is still not secure. If you would like to help and particularly if you are a parent with young children who would like to find out more about the school then contact:

The Holy Trinity School
Carlisle Lane, SE1
928 5447

Holy Trinity is undoubtedly a popular and loved school for both parents and children. It's just the sort of school we need in Waterloo. Help us save it!



OTHER HOLY TRINITY KIDS PAGE 2

inside!

DOUBLE PAGE SPREAD ON WHAT THE HEALTH CUTS MEAN LOCALLY p4/5

MUCKING ABOUT ON THE THAMES
page 3
RECIPES & GARDENING page 6

ON THE LEFT ex-SE1 reporter George Nicholson, now local GLC councillor and chair of their Planning Committee, opens the new Tabard Gardens football pitch & renovated park. Funds for the work came from his committee's Community Areas fund. Shame he still can't get decent suits. Southwark Mayor Sam King looks on, along with unimpressed local residents. More story on back page.

W(HEALTHY)?

PRIVATE HEALTH, PRIVATE PROFITS

At the same time as our local health services face drastic cuts work is in progress building a new private hospital on Chamberlains Wharf and converting Emblem House into private consulting rooms. Both of these buildings are on Hay's Wharf and are due to be opened in 1985. The permission for the development has been given by the London Docklands Development Corporation (LDDC) to St Martins Hospital Services, a wholly owned subsidiary of St Martins Property Company.

The doctor in charge of the medical side of developments explained how the 119 bed hospital, to be called The London Bridge Hospital as part of the new 'London Bridge City' planned for Hay's Wharf, would

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE (Col. 4)

The local newspaper!

2 Letters Letters Letters

Dear SE1,

I am fed up reading all the bad reports in our daily and evening press. In fact I have now stopped buying the 'Evening Standard' because all they do is knock, knock, knock, and give a one-sided report on the present Greater London Council. You would think that the GLC was a one-man band (Ken Livingstone) but there are many elected members in County Hall trying their hardest to improve our environment. I live very close to the South Bank and I have seen the changes and the benefits not only for local residents but to the ordinary working classes.

Apart from the success of 'Thamesday', have you seen what changes are being made in the whole Arts Complex itself? At the National Theatre they have had probably their biggest production 'Guys and Dolls', certainly my cup of tea. At the Royal Festival Hall they have put on their own productions, such as a Mel Tormé, George Shearing and Carmen McRea concert. This was coffee with cream. Tom Jones will be appearing and jazz is being given its chance (in the Music Box). These changes are all to our benefit.

What about the Music Box in the Royal Festival Hall, open Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 7pm? Where else can you get a pint for 80p and listen to live music?

Of course there are many other projects the GLC is supporting. But you won't read this in the Tory Press. All I can say is go find out for yourself.

Yours, John Hearn,
local resident.

Dear SE1,

I was reading the article about the Community Gardens in Copperfield Street, and I disagree about all the rubbish that says:

"It's wonderful to come in here and see the kids playing on the grass"

How can you see the kids on the grass if that Ted won't let the children in there?

If you are thinking, how do I know? Well I'll tell you, because he's thrown me and my friends out of the so-called lovely garden more times than I've had hot dinners.

I've no idea why he throws us out but for instance, we were sun-bathing one day and there was rubbish all over the garden, and when Ted came walking in he blamed us straight away when we weren't the only ones in there. What got me was he didn't even ask us if we did it, he just presumed it because we are teenagers.

Why can't they make a garden that's for teenagers as well as live in flats too? Is this a community garden or what?

Signed, Ian Burnby, Martin Hills, Sharon Burton, Donna Burton, Jenny Andrews, Michele Romm.

Dear SE1,

This is a letter of protest through your newspaper by a dock worker who once believed the promises of his ex-MP, Robert Mellish. Mellish promised the dock workers a permanent job in the docks, with Hays Wharf used for the modernisation of the industry and the betterment of the nation.

What now of those promises? Dock workers are down to 10% of their original numbers, and are now awaiting an attack on the National Scheme.

What of Robert Mellish? He sits in a nice soft job dividing the whole of Hay's Wharf into office developments. This is at the enormous expense of the patriotic workers of Hay's Wharf who have been scattered to Tilbury and all directions at their own expense.

J.E. Moyse, Docker

ANOTHER PAGE ONE PICTURE



WHAT'S ON.

BRING OUT YOUR DEAD!

A BLACK COMEDY WITH SONGS BY PETER COX

"A hilarious and abrasive black comedy which looks at the implications of privatisation of the Health Care Services: what would happen if those used to the 'survival of the fittest' (in the struggle for profits) were given control of care for the weakest?"

at Oval House, 52 Kennington Oval, SE11 (by Oval Tube), Wednesday 19th to Sunday 23rd October at 7.30pm. £2.20, or 70p for under 18s. Further details on 735 2866.

TALENT SHOW October 28th, organised by Waterloo Amenities Group. More details from Dolly, Charlie or Mary at Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Rd.

MUSIC

Monday lundtimes at Southwark Cathedral: organ recitals, 1.10 to 1.45pm
Tuesday lunchtimes at the Cathedral: recitals by senior students of London Colleges of Music.

Admission free to the above.
Ring 407 3708 for more details.

Saturday morning family concerts at Morley College, 10.30 to 12.30
OCTOBER 15th: Suzuki Strings (violin and piano music); and Buttons and Blows: by the Morley Wind Group

NOVEMBER 5th: Bright Brass, by the London Collegiate Brass Band; and Music Now, with West Square Electronic Music Ensemble and audience participation.

Tickets for the above: 75p, 35p children. Available at the door: Morley College, 61 Westminster Bridge Road, SE1.

MUSIC HALL

OCTOBER 19th: John Murphy, Cilla Stewart, Judith Baxter, Jean Manning, Terri Carol, Syd Marx.
NOVEMBER 2nd: Victor Seaforth, Zena Cooper, Jan Lennard, Glen Francis, Jose Roland.

Both of these Wednesday shows are from 2 to 4pm at Lambeth Town Hall, Brixton, seats 50p, available from any Lambeth library.

EXHIBITION at the Livesey Museum, 682 Old Kent Road, SE15 on the Music Hall in Southwark begins early October. Contact 639 5604 for details.

BOOK REVIEW

JIPPING STREET by KATHERINE WOODWARD (Virago £2.95)

Jipping Street is a remarkable book: written by a working class woman from Peckham, it is an autobiographical account of what it was like to grow up in this area before the first world war. She gives the places and people in the book fictitious names, but anyone from the area will immediately locate Jipping Street in the Borough.

Katherine Woodward takes us on a fascinating historical tour of a familiar landscape. I was particularly interested to read about the Work House which was once a prominent feature of S.E.1. Older readers will remember it as a grim reality. And about the hospital (surely Guys) where they "did things with knives". The author cheerfully recounts the fate of her neighbour who "went in for an operation for her ears and came out without her tonsils".

Jipping Street has a Dickensian feel about it. Its characters suffer enormously. Poverty and violence are presented as a composite part of every day life, and are therefore aptly understated. More striking than the initial sense of shock this arouses is the recognition that times

have not changed; that little girls are still murdered on Clapham Common; suicides are still found floating in the Thames (as her grandfather was), and that the domestic violence of husband against wife, parent against child is still prevalent and largely accepted.

Jipping Street is an inordinately sad book, but even its most pathetic moments are laced with humour. Through her warm and witty presentation of a gallery of characters from her past, Katherine Woodward invests every doorway with a complex personality and breathes life and pathos into every line of this unique social document. It is the skillful way in which she combines sadness and humour which makes her book so deeply touching, and its inhabitants so real. Katherine Woodward's style is refreshingly simple, and conversational in tone, so that we are swept along by the familiar language and rhythms of her sentences, relive her experiences, and share her observations of life as it was, recognising in them life as it is.

Sally Sheen

THAMES, WHY NOT USE IT FOR PLEASURE, LEISURE AND TREASURE...??

Now that the River Thames is no longer an industrial river, nearly all the docks have closed or moved to Tilbury. It takes a long while for Londoners to realise what a marvellous amenity they have right on their doorstep. Gone are the days, when if you fell into the river, you had to go into hospital to be pumped out. Millions of pounds have been poured into the Thames over the last six years, and the result is a much cleaner river. I have witnessed these changes, having enjoyed this amenity over the last thirteen years, and I hope that this article will encourage others to follow suit.

When I first used to go down to the foreshore (it is always best to go down when the tide is out, otherwise you will get wet) there was mud everywhere, over two feet deep in places. But slowly the mud disappeared, even putting a group of people out of work. At that time there was at least a dozen people who used to fish for red worms, which used to thrive in the mud. They used to dredge the mud, in their watertight outfits, leaving the worms behind in their dredger. They then sold the red worms to tropical fish shops for fish food. I am sure they got a good living out of it, for the worms were quite expensive. Before the mud went, you had to wear Wellington boots, but now it is possible just to wear an old pair of shoes.

Everywhere you go now, the foreshore has changed: every tide is cleaning the river. Of course it's not like the beaches on the Costa Brava, but for an industrial river it has certainly improved. The surface of the foreshore is sinking, leaving on top evidence of its use. Amongst the stones, rocks and shingle, you will see this industrial waste: nails, bits of lead and iron etc. But with it there is a chance of finding artifacts and relics from the past. Remember the Thames was



Despite the changeable weather on September 10th, this year's Thamesday was well attended. A large number of signatures were got for the petition to save the Oxo Tower, and much interest was shown in the exhibitions by local groups.

once the main highway for London, bridges were not there as you see them today. The only way across was by the one bridge (London Bridge) or by boat, mostly at the narrowest stretches that is how 'Hungerford' railway bridge got its name.

Prise up nearly any stone and underneath you will see marine life, like young shrimps. You will also notice that the silt which is light leaving patches of sand which is heavier. It seems strange that although a number of people are becoming aware of the potential of the river, very few are local people. I hope that this article will encourage some of you to enjoy the amenity.

THINGS YOU CAN DO, THINGS YOU CAN FIND

1. Away from it all
Just being down on the foreshore is a pleasure in itself. There are not many places that you can find peace and quiet from this bustling and bustling city. Many people are already being enticed down there and are just walking from one set of steps or bridge to another. Taking in the tranquillity and admiring the view.

up their range of bike spares and accessories. What is more the local experts from the London Cycling Campaign warmly welcomed it as a place for the ordinary cyclist to go, and rated their workshops as 'well set-up'.

So why not drop in at 13 London Road (on the right hand side as you go down to the Elephant from St. Georges Circus). Or phone them on 261 0602.

Lunar Cycles Bicycle Repair Co-operative

If people at your local cycle shop look down their noses at you when you wheel in a beat-up old bike for repair, don't get annoyed. Instead, why not take it round to 'Lunar Cycles' a new cycle repair shop in London Road.

They are a friendly bunch, and whether you have a 10-speed race, a BMX bike or a no-speed, no brakes roadster, they'll give you a good service. It's run as a workers co-op, and they are gradually building

2. The Arts

Hopefully, this may encourage individuals, photography groups and artists to use their gifts by recording our history, while it is still there. Every year major changes are taking place along the banks of the Thames. Some of the beautiful wharfs disappear for some faceless new development. We should have a potted history (paint potted). Do you read me, Morley College?

3. Fishing

At the last count, there were 102 different varieties of fish in different reaches of the Thames. Dabs, flounders and eels are common in central London, and there is a chance of a salmon. So don't tell me to sling my hook, sling it down there.

4. Recreation

I have personally been trying to get Southwark Council interested in making provision for a rowing or canoeing club in our area. There is a site next to Blackfriars Bridge with steps

and causeway down to the water, on the corner of Southwark St and Blackfriars Road. So why not? There are other clubs along the river, Wapping and Vauxhall, and when I have spoken to these canoeists, they have said it is quite safe, except when there are spring tides. So local Youth Clubs, why not chase this up?

5. Treasure

Many things have been lost and found over the years. I must remind you that the Thames has been with us for a long time. Many generations have used it, and lost things or thrown things into it. All it needs is belief, faith and perseverance, and there is plenty for all. Coins, rings and artifacts are there. Even over the two days of writing this article, I have spent an hour each day on the foreshore and have come away with an Elizabeth 1st sixpence date 1580, and a William the 3rd halfpenny (forgery), plus a musket ball.

What a way to enjoy yourself and costing nothing. What a way to make contact and learn from the past. When you find, say, a Roman coin, it is like shaking hands with a Roman some eighteen hundred years later. You do not need a detector machine, use your eyes.

WHERE AND WHEN

There are a number of ways of getting down to the Thames foreshore: some ladders and steps still remain along its banks. It is always best to check up on the tides first. Some daily newspapers and Radio London give high tide times. Just deduct six hours either side of high tide and you have low tide. And it is always best to go down there when the tide is going out.

by Nomore Mudlark

STOP PRESS....? LAUNDRY ADDITIONS



Many people who get supplementary benefit are not claiming all they should. An example is weekly laundry additions, as has been shown by recent important tribunal decisions.

We have enclosed a leaflet telling you about laundry additions. If you think you qualify, fill it in and send it to:

The Manager, DHSS, Wedge House, Blackfriars Road, London, SE1.

or if you live outside the SE1 area, your local DHSS office.

In Glasgow, hundreds of people missed out on up to £3 a week. The good news is that the DHSS can backdate the money. In Glasgow, this meant £150 for some people
SO GET YOUR CLAIM IN NOW!



YOUR HEALTH

FIRST CLASS HEALTH CARE - EVERYONE'S RIGHT?

David Osborne, Chairman of NUPE in Guy's Hospital described how the cuts would effect both patients and staff in the North Southwark and Lewisham Health District. With the Government imposing a massive £909,000 cut between now and April 1984, and another £2,399,000 cut up to April 1985, the Health service will be absolutely decimated, the already long waiting lists will get even longer and the services provided to patients will get worse. The situation is likely to be particularly serious for the old, mentally ill and mentally handicapped, who will be turned out into the community to be cared for by relatives - if they have any. The problems for areas like Bermondsey with a very high proportion of elderly people could be disastrous. For many old people their only relatives in the community are also old and are themselves struggling to survive.

There are a whole range of health services under immediate threat including St Olaves



Outpatients, Sydenham Childrens Hospital, New Cross and/or Hither Green Hospitals. The long term plans are even worse with a threatened £13.5 million in yearly expenditure by 1993.

These cuts will mean a real cut in services and loss of jobs for people providing the services; there are likely to be 237 jobs lost by April 1985 - 117 in administration, ancillary, clerical and workers. 120 in nursing, professional and technical. This is at a time when there are already beds and services closed due to lack of staff. How dare Mrs. Thatcher claim the N.H.S. is safe in her hands when everyone working in the service can see what the Tories are doing to it. Already old people are having to wait in pain for 2-3 years for a hip replacement, and with these cuts the waiting lists will get even longer. Of course, Mrs. Thatcher went to a private hospital for her eye operation - she has decimated the N.H.S. but that doesn't worry her, she can afford to go private.

There is no possibility that these cuts will be made

- more cuts

Most people know that our health service is in trouble from lack of money. It is also run and funded in a complicated way. So it is hard to grasp the extent of the crisis; why it has happened; and to imagine exactly what the effects will be.

The local Health Authority administers the local service. It is called Lewisham and North Southwark Health Authority and covers the whole of the borough of Lewisham and all of Southwark to the north of Walworth. The service it administers includes all the 7 hospitals (Guys, New Cross, St. Olave's, Lewisham, Grove Park, Hither Green and Sydenham), the health centres and community health services. It has links with local GPs, dentists, chiropodists, and opticians but does not manage them. They are

"independent contractors", not employed directly by the NHS.

Nonetheless, the services managed by the local District Health Authority are vast: they cost £98 million this year and employ 10,000 people. Yet, health authorities, unlike local councils, cannot raise their own money by charging rates to the people who live in their area. They get their money from the Regional Health Authorities (RHA). Ours is called South East Thames Regional Health Authority and covers the whole of South East England including Kent, Surrey and East Sussex as well as a quarter of London. The RHA in turn gets its money from the Secretary of State for Health and Social Security (Norman Fowler) and so ultimately from the taxpayer. The DHSS decides how much it will give each Regional Health Authority. Then the Region decides how much it will give each local district. Then the district has to decide, within guidelines, how it will spend that money to provide health services. And the money is never enough. So, horribly difficult decisions have to be made between different parts of the health service. For instance, how can you decide between giving a new kidney to a child who would die without it, and doing ten hip operations to enable people to walk properly again, and providing day care for a hundred old people and ten more health visitors to help young families to a healthy start. They are impossible choices. But there is not enough money to do all of them at once. And for this district the situation is getting worse: the money is getting less, not more, although costs are obviously rising; the choices are getting harder.

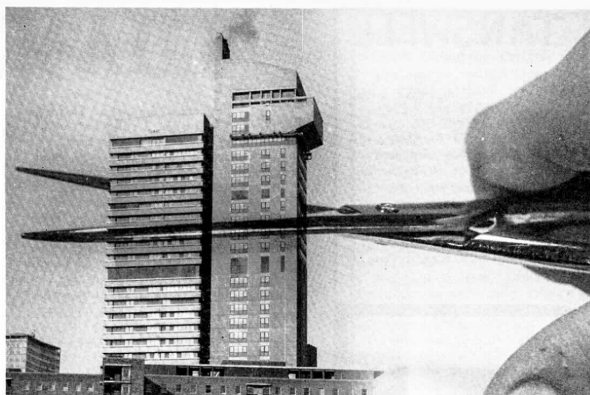
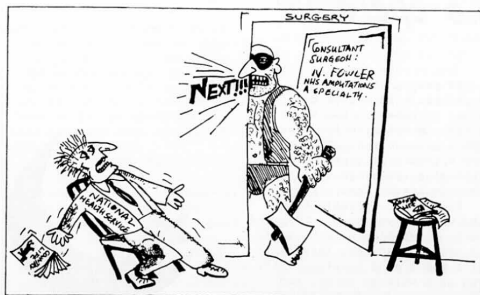
Now, the reason the money is getting less is that the Government is giving the region less to give us. These cuts come under several headings:

RAWP CUTS

There's a thing called RAWP (Resource Allocation Working Party) which the Government

will be quick to tell you was not invented by them, but by Barbara Castle and her Labour government way back. It means giving more money to those parts of the country that have poorer health services, to enable them to catch up with those that have had better services. We had, relatively, better hospital services. - Though, you might say that a poorer environment, lower wages and many more other local problems than other parts of the country, might cancel that out. Indeed, we do argue that those factors of deprivation are not given enough weight in the calculation. RAWP also takes into account variations in local need by morbidity and mortality figures; by age structures and by population changes. So, although our district is one

of the largest in the country with 320,000 people, the population has fallen from what it used to be, and the health services have not been reduced on the same scale. This means we should be now a losing district according to the RAWP formula. Of course, hospitals with responsibilities for training doctors and nurses like Guys - and now Lewisham - and with great expertise and expensive equip-



WHAT FUTURE?

ment serve far more than their immediate district. More than half of the patients in Guys come from outside our health district, because the treatment here is better than in their own district. So we would argue that RAWP calculations have not taken this enough into account either. RAWP means that this health district has to reduce its spending during the next five years, by nearly £4 million (It gets even worse after 5 years). That's the first cut. The 2nd (which has been introduced by this government) is called "Efficiency Cuts"

"EFFICIENCY CUTS"

It means trying to do the same work for less money, cutting corners and tightening up. And, of course, perhaps getting outside private firms to do the laundry, cleaning, meals etc in the hospital which have been done in the past by people directly employed by the health service. We are told to save £1.4 million in "efficiency" during the next five years. Then the third cuts were only announced in the summer.

"LAWSON CUTS"

Known as the "Lawson Cuts" after the Chancellor, they are meant to be implemented at once, in the middle of the financial year. When our plans and budgets were of course all agreed at the beginning of the financial year. For this district the Lawson cuts mean £900,000 less each year.

If you add up all these cuts we have between £6 - £7 million less each year with which to provide a health service for the district. This is at a time when the costs of providing the service are rising, not least because of medical progress. Each year more can be done to help chronically sick children and adults, low birthweight babies, and frail old people. And of course the number of elderly (who are naturally by far the largest group needing and using the health service) is particularly high in this area, and is going up throughout the country.

YOUR VIEWS?

THE CHC VIEW

Nobody knows what the future will be for the health services in North Southwark and Lewisham. We know about the cuts that are being imposed by the Government, but decisions about what will actually happen to services in this health district are taken by the members of the District Health Authority (DHA). So far no major decisions have been made. The DHA members have told their officers - who draw up the detailed plans - that they need more information. They also agreed at their last meeting that they should be asking for more money to be allocated to this district.

The DHA have to think about patients and staff when they take decisions. But, whether they like it or not, they also have to think about money.

The Community Health Council (CHC) does not have to think about money. Its first concern is always the patients - and local people generally.

CHCs were set up to act as the consumers' voice. They are funded by the Regional Health Authority (RHA), which also appoints some of the members. Other members are nominated by local authorities and voluntary organisations. Before the

So the picture is grim. The choices are awful. But the health authority will have to make them, on behalf of the district, and in consultation with local groups and particularly the Community Health Council.

It is worth recalling the words of the Act which set up the Health Service: "To provide a comprehensive health service designed to secure improvement in the physical and mental health of the people of England and Wales". Will these cuts with the difficult choices between different groups preserve a "comprehensive service"?

Exactly what the effects will be we don't know. But there are sure to be much longer waits, shorter hospital stays, more people being nursed at home.

This health district was only created last year from the merger of the old Guys district and Lewisham district, and so members and officers have had to cope with getting to know a huge new area and several other hospitals. This makes choices even harder. We want the best in all our services, for all age groups, right across the district. Pressure groups and campaigns rightly put the needs of special cases strongly, but the authority has to balance one against another.

As an authority making the choices we need to be kept very well aware of what the effects are on local people.

Rosemary Harvey
Member
Lewisham & North Southwark
Health Authority

health service was re-organised last year there was a CHC for Guys District - which covered North Southwark - and another for Lewisham District. The two districts were combined in 1982 and there is now only one CHC which has to try to represent the views of consumers in the whole of Lewisham and North Southwark.

This is a massive task. The DHA has many officers to prepare and present plans to its members: we have only four staff altogether, and two of these are part-timers. Limited resources mean that we have to decide which issues it is most important for us to concentrate our energies on. We choose to fight on behalf of those who would otherwise have few people to fight for them - like the mentally ill, the mentally handicapped and the elderly. These are the so-called 'priority care groups'.

We are concerned that there are not enough services for the priority care groups: they have never been fully developed. For example, we have carried out research which showed that in North Southwark, elderly people have specific and acute needs which existing health service provision does not meet. We have put forward proposals to the DHA for the use of part of the St. Olaves



ST OLAVE'S HOSPITAL

St. Olaves Hospital has already suffered heavily in previous rounds of cuts in the health services, and it was proposed by the District Management Team that it should be a major victim under the 'Lawson' cuts. Despite the recommendation from the officers who make up the team, the District Health Authority meeting at the end of September rejected the complete closure of the out-patients facilities housed there.

Instead, most of the services are being kept open whilst alternative proposals for these services are fully considered.

With the situation on health cuts becoming more and

Hospital site as a place where elderly people could go when they are ready to leave hospital but not yet able to be on their own at home, or to give the people who look after them a break. We have asked the DHA to take these needs into account when they are making plans for the future.

Recently, one of our priorities has been to work alongside and keep in touch with the St. Olaves Hospital Campaign. In the months to come there will undoubtedly be groups of local people concerned about the future of other hospitals - Sydenham, Hither Green and New Cross. The CHC needs to know what local groups are doing, so that when we make responses or proposals to the DHA, we are they know that the CHC is really in touch with the local communities. Local groups also need us because it can be easier for us to get information from the DHA about their plans. They invite CHC observers onto their officers' planning groups. They also have, by law, to consult us on any proposals to close a hospital or make a major change in its use. We can interpret such proposals for local people and try to make sure that there is real communication between the DHA and local people. Our job is to do our best to represent the needs of people in this district as a whole.

Cathy Carmichael, for
Lewisham and North Southwark
Community Health Council

more desperate, we believe that it is crucially important for us (the Campaign for St Olaves Hospital) to keep turning up in large numbers if we are to stand any chance of preventing critical decisions regarding health cuts. There were about 300 people at the last DHA meeting.

The next DHA meeting is on Monday 24th October at 4.30 in the Florence Shepherd Dining Hall of Guys Hospital. For more information contact Jill Butler or Alan Turkle on 231 0916/7.

CAMPAIGN

6 GARDENING WITH KEIB THOMAS.



October is the month to look around your plants (and every one else), to see what is still flowering and therefore excellent value for money and worth the effort you put in earlier in the year. Looking out of the Community Education office window, I can see the following bringing colour to brighten these early Autumn days--Petunias in a window box, Variegated ivy orange 'Red Hot Peppers', Blue Lobelia and Cerastium, Yellow French Marigolds, Red Dahlias, Roses and Tomatoes.

Around the SE1 streets, the red, pink, orange and white Geraniums are the brightest plants in pots and window boxes. In Nelson Square, it's the roses of every hue that catch the eye. The Banksia garden along the Thames is now full of Cotoneasters with yellow red and orange berries. It also has Pontederia shrubs covered in yellow or white flowers and many tropical or variegated shrubs like Fatia Japonica or Blechnum Maculata. At the Copperfield St. Community Garden it's the yellow Melianthus that stand out, even on cloudy days. In the corner of Joanna School playground the Quince is covered in yellow fruit ready for making into jelly. Everywhere the trees are beginning to change into their Autumn colour. From Brad St., the first six back gardens of Hatch Row Coop clearly show what can be done in the first year of moving in. There are five lawns and one vegetable patch surrounded by flowers. Those in flower now are-- Dahlias, Bussy Lizzies

Geraniums, Alyssum, Lobelias, Marigolds, roses, Begonias, Persian Violet, Clematis, Fushias, Mieladomes Daisies, Antirrhinums, Salvia and some magnificent Cabbages! In Windmill Walk I asked Mrs Linke who has a super display in her basement how she managed it. "I started off with buying evergreen shrubs which gave me colour all through the winter. Flowering plants like Lobelia Marigolds, Bussy Lizzies, Fushias, Begonias give me colour throughout the summer." I could see very well what she meant, even though it was the 3rd of October all these flowering plants were full of bright colours. These plants have been flowering since May, you can't beat that for value!

Finally -- Now is the time to buy wallflower plants, get them in now and by Spring time you'll have bushy plants that will smother themselves in scented flowers. You can get your wallflower plants and Spring bulbs down the Lower Marsh stalls, Woolworths, and the plant store on Waterloo Bridge roundabout. Did you know that if you sow Hardy Annuals now, they will start growing and stay green over the Winter, giving you flowers in the early Summer rather than much later from a Springtime sowing. Try it with a packet of Pansies, Alyssum, Larkspur or Calendula! The photographs on this page show the view of the courtyard and the landings seen from Merrow House in Rushworth St. here is a marvelous example of how local people can brighten up their lives through developing their practical interest in gardens.



GINGER-BREAD.

KENNINGTON & WATERLOO GINGERBREAD
Kennington & Waterloo Gingerbread have ceased Tuesday evening meetings until the new year, when their new premises will be ready for use. Any lone parents who would like to find out more about Gingerbread, or just obtain advice, please contact Bob Flett c/o SE1 newspaper.

TANSWELL

ADVANCE NOTICE
Tanswell Mother & Toddler Group are holding their AGM on Wednesday 23rd Nov. 7pm at the Community Education Building, King Edward Walk. Don't miss next months issue for further details. The AGM will be first showing of the tape slide show made by some of the mothers recently, to help the struggle in funding the project.



BOB'S RECIPE

MINGED BEEF LOAF

- 1lb Minged Beef
- 1lb Lean bacon or bacon pieces.
- 3 Slices bread from a large loaf.
- 1 Level teaspoon mixed dried herbs
- 1 Level teaspoon chopped parsley.
- 1 Standard egg
- Salt and pepper

Prepare a moderate oven (375-deg F 190 deg C Gas mark 5) Remove any rind or bone from bacon, and finely mince with bread. Mix thoroughly with herbs parsley, egg and some salt and pepper. Press mixture into a 1lb loaf tin and level the top; cover with a piece of foil and cook for 1 1/2 hrs (I found that by cooking it for an extra 15min with the foil off finished it off just right). Leave to cool in tin. When quite cold, turn out and serve sliced.



LONG TERM BENEFITS RIP-OFF

Most types of state benefit have a higher long-term rate for those who have been claiming for over 12 months, including supplementary benefit. The regulations have, however, been deliberately designed in such a way as to exclude the unemployed from ever getting the long term rate, even if they've been signing on for years.

This practice obviously discriminates against the unemployed, who are the poorest and most vulnerable section of the community, and clearly should not be allowed to continue. Out of almost 360,000 unemployed people in the Greater London area, over 17,000 live in or around Southwark. All those who have been signing on for more than 12 months would get at least another £7 a week if they were able to get the long-term rate of supplementary benefit.

Since Norman Tebbit altered the way unemployment figures are made up, many out of work people do not even appear in official government statistics. Even so there are 1266 people in Bermondsey and 2175 in the Borough area who are missing out as a direct effect of this

ruling. In March this year, a public meeting was held in Southwark to launch a local campaign around the issue of long term benefit payments. But with the Tories re-elected in May, much of the enthusiasm for the campaign was lost. Blackfriars Advice Centre feels that the issue is much too important to be dropped, and we are doing all we can to make people aware of the situation.

It has been estimated that the total cost would be £400 million a year. Compared with £25 a week unemployment benefit this looks like a fantastically high figure. But when you compare it with some other figures, things look very different. For instance, £400 million is less than half the cost of the new Falklands airport, or about one twentieth of the whole Trident nuclear programme. Has the government got its priorities right, we ask?

All readers of SE1 who feel strongly enough about this dismal state of affairs to do something about, can contact myself, Andrew or Ken at the Advice Centre for more details. We look forward to hearing from you.

Mick Kraemer
Campaign and Training
Worker at Blackfriars
Advice Centre

HOUSES FIT FOR LOCAL PEOPLE - LOCAL HOUSING.

HOUSING DEBATE
July 30th was the start of a glorious weekend of sunshine and also the date chosen for the first of the discussions on Housing in Waterloo organised by the Association of Waterloo Groups. Happily enough people were not lured into sunbathing and the end result was extremely useful start to a very important discussion.

For generations, people have had to move away from the area because of a lack of decent accommodation at rents and prices local people could afford. Largely through the struggles of local people the trend has been lessened in recent years and now several opportunities exist to build housing in the area on sites such as Coin St, Campbell Buildings and The Cut sites. Within the Waterloo area a number of different types of housing exist including Housing Associations, Council Housing, Church Commissioners, Housing

Co-operatives property and some private housing (although usually at price levels way beyond the means of most local people).

The aim of the discussion was to examine the advantages and disadvantages of the various types of housing as experienced directly by people who live in them. It proved an extremely useful meeting with much discussion particularly on Council Housing, by far the largest type of tenure in Waterloo and Housing Co-operatives. An excellent contribution was made by Tim Maas, a worker with Shelter who gave a fascinating history of public housing and stressed the value of rented housing.

The second meeting is planned for Saturday October 15th at 2 pm in the Community Education Building, Morley College, S.E.1. It is hoped to discuss proposals for the type of new housing that people want to see in Waterloo in terms of the available resources and finance. If you want to influence the future of your area then come along.

For further information contact:
Association of Waterloo Groups
14 Baylis Road, S.E.1.
or Tel. 261 1404

IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN AN ADULT EDUCATION CLASS AT Morley College. Places available in:-
THE THIRTIES, Tues. 6.30-8.30pm. Memories, films, documents, discussion on how we lived.
CURRENT AFFAIRS, Fri. 6.30-8.30. Come and meet people and discuss what's going on in our world... films & videos. Tel. Olga Kenyon 928-8501. For details of these and other interesting courses in the MORLEY COLLEGE HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT.

Standard washing machines • boil wash machines
sinks for hand-washing • airing racks • hand irons
rotary presses • spin dryers
tumble dryers

only **£1.20** Complete wash, dry and iron for 25lbs of washing.

only **25p** for 15lbs of washing. Special low price for OAPs on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays before 3pm.

Lambeth Walk Laundry

in Lambeth Walk near Lambeth Road.
Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays: 8.30am-4.45pm
Thursdays: 9am-4.45pm Saturdays: 9am-4.45pm

LOCAL HOSTEL!

The GLC propose to build a hostel in 73-75 Stamford Street for the homeless who are unwilling to use or are refused entry to existing hostels. They announced their intention to do this in a small public notice in the classified section of the South London Press. A policy which was actually designed to make such a proposal unpopular with people in Waterloo would have had no greater success!

Pressure from the Association of Waterloo Groups resulted in a series of public meetings to discuss the idea. These were held at the London Nautical School in Stamford St. in July and September. Once the nature of the hostel was explained, there was general acceptance of the idea. What was made quite clear was the general unsuitability of the chosen location.

Waterloo has nearly 20% of its population living in one kind of institution or another: the Christian Alliance Centre and the Union Jack Club are examples. Inevitably, because the people who live there are staying in the area for a limited time, their commitment to the area future is not strong.

What Waterloo desperately needs is more houses for families: a point crucially relevant in Stamford Street itself with the continued neglect by the GLC of 95-103 Stamford St.

It soon became apparent at the first public meeting that the GLC officials had never seriously considered any site other than in Waterloo for the hostel's location, and it was left to members of the audience to suggest alternative sites for investigation by the GLC.

Tony McBrearty, chair of Housing at the GLC, allayed some of the fears of the people who live in Stamford St. Duchy Street, Aquinas St. and Coin St by explaining that the hostel

would be completely different from existing hostels. It would be small with room for 20 to 25 people at any one time, with a high ratio of staff to residents. There would be no possibility of queuing by the homeless, or harassment of local children, which were the two main fears of local people. He also promised that if the scheme went ahead at 73-75 Stamford St. he would hold another meeting in a year's time to discuss the success or otherwise of the hostel.

At both public meetings, the discussion was generally constructive: more constructive than perhaps the GLC deserved given their inept handling of the consultative process. Several suggestions were made to gain general acceptance for the proposed hostel within the area. These included:

1. Staff, and particularly the Manager, of the Hostel should be appointed who are sensitive to the needs of the local residents as well as the needs of the users of the hostel. They should see it as an important part of their job to explain the purpose of the hostel to local people and deal sympathetically with difficulties encountered by local people in the early stages.

2. It would also be desirable for the GLC to finish as quickly as possible the necessary improvement work on 95-103 Stamford St, so that these are available for letting in the near future.

3. It should be made quite clear from the start that the Hostel would not admit casual users and entry was only by invitation by the staff. This would discourage any possible disturbance and queuing outside, particularly at night.

By the end of the second meeting in September, it was clear that the overwhelming majority of local residents present were opposed to the proposed location in Stamford St. It was also pretty clear that the GLC had a definite preference for that site.

The final decision will have been taken just as 'SE1' goes to print by the GLC Housing Committee. If, as seems likely, they do choose 73-75 Stamford Street, then it is hoped that they take account of the points mentioned by local residents. Maybe next time such an issue arises (and it is intended that there will be several similar hostels in different parts of London) GLC officials will take the process of public consultation seriously. It could have saved a lot of problems.

STOP PRESS: We have just heard that there may be problems in the GLC getting the use of the Stamford St buildings after all, and some alternative premises in Leake St opposite County Hall are being seriously investigated.



SMALL ADS. SMALL ADS.

PHOTOCOPIER for sale. Rank Xerox model 660, £100 including maintenance contract until end of March 1984.

also KEY BOX available free. Space to keep 20 keys secure. Wall mountable. Both the above from North Lambeth Day Centre. Anyone interested please phone Jill Cox on 261 9622.

TWO REEL-TO-REEL TAPE RECORDERS Old and in need of some repair, but basically in good condition. Both half-track. Truvox R92 £10, Ferrograph series 4, £15 ono. Contact John on 928 4748 or leave a message at Waterloo Action Centre.

8 In for a dig

A major archaeological dig that should provide a unique look back into London's past has been given a grant of £40,000 by the Greater London Council's Planning Committee.

It is going to the Museum of London who are organising the dig at the seven acre former Courage bottling plant off Park Street, SE1. The site has already been bought through the GLC's Community Areas Policy for development into homes and industrial buildings.

Local GLC councillor and chair of the Planning Committee, George Nicholson, said "The site's size and location within an historic town occupied for more than 2,000 years makes it potentially one of the most important sites to have become available for excavation. It offers an unparalleled opportunity to obtain information on a large and comprehensive scale."

"Most previous sites have been too small to provide the overall plans of early buildings and streets necessary for a proper understanding of the area's development."

"The GLC aims to set a standard that property companies will be expected to follow. There have been appalling examples of archaeological vandalism by companies who have not allowed proper investigation to be carried out."

Work on the Courage site is expected to last several months. It is expected to reveal information on Saxon and medieval Southwark. The dig should only cause very minimum delay to the development of the site by the GLC and Southwark Council.

join us

SE1 is a community newspaper run entirely by volunteers. It is here to provide you with what you want from a local newspaper. So get in touch if you have anything to report, a news item from a group you are involved with, or have something you want to sell locally.

The SE1 group also warmly invites you to come and take an active part in your local paper. You can help in a wide variety of ways, spending as little or as much time as you want. No special skills are required most of the time, and what there is can be learnt easily. If you would like to know more, get in touch, or see our March issue.

You can contact us by leaving a message at Waterloo Action Centre (261 1404), ring John on 928 4748 evenings or in North Southwark, via Martin Whiteside at NSCDG (928 0711).



VANDAL TIPPERS

Twice this month (September) at 5.30 on a Monday morning a large lorry has dumped an enormous quantity of rubble in the newly renovated Tabard Gardens. A local resident saw the lorry but was unable to take its number. These mountains of rubble are an eyesore, are dangerous to children who play on them, and will cost the Council quite a few pounds of our rates to clear up.

Rita Sargent, chairperson of Tabard Gardens Tenants Association and mastermind behind the garden refurbishment, was furious at the damage the tippers had caused in order to save themselves time and money. She also blamed Southwark Council for not adequately securing the Gardens against illegal tipping.

WATERLOO EMPLOYMENT PROJECT

Waterloo Employment Project have postponed their AGM from October 20th (announced last issue). Watch out for the new date!

Our November issue will appear on November 5th, and all articles, adverts etc must reach us by October 26th at 12 Meymott Street, SE1. We welcome letters too. Meetings are on October 12th and 26th.

HIT IT

One of the many attractions at Colombo Street Sports Centre's Open Day on September 24 to 25 was the team on the right. Street Hockey team from South London, the Ashmead Cruisers, put on a display of this sport, which is more or less ice hockey but on roller skates.

Colombo Street's autumn programme of activities is now in full swing. Why not get in touch to see if there is anything on for you? Call in any day during the week, or phone 261 1658.

Rita also explained how the Tenants Association was having difficulties over the use of the new pitch. The Tenants Association got the money for the project from the GLC's Community Area policy. The pitch is however looked after by Southwark Council who charge £13.22 per hour for its use.

The Tenants Association had negotiated to be able to use the pitch free between 4pm and 6pm each day. Now however they find that local schools can also use it at these times. To cap it all, last Saturday the Tenants Association Girls Netball Team was charged £1.30 for using the netball area. Rita feels that since the Tenants Association put in for the money, their local members should be able to use the facilities for free.

OCTOBER 1983
EXHIBITION
OF
PAINTINGS
AND
DRAWINGS
BY
MICHAEL TAYLOR
MORLEY COLLEGE
GALLERY
 61 Westminster Bridge Road
 London SE1 7HT



FROM FRONT PAGE

be a commercial enterprise aimed at the British insurance market. He was wary about how the hospital may use some NHS facilities like radio-therapy ("this would be fuel for the critics"), it would however be a convenient place for Guy's consultants to treat their private patients. The charges are planned to be "at the top London insurance rate". This amounts to a staggering £156 per day or £1,155 per week excluding treatment! The additional cost for a major operation would be in the order of £4,000 to £6,000.

How many SE1 readers will benefit from this?

LIVE!

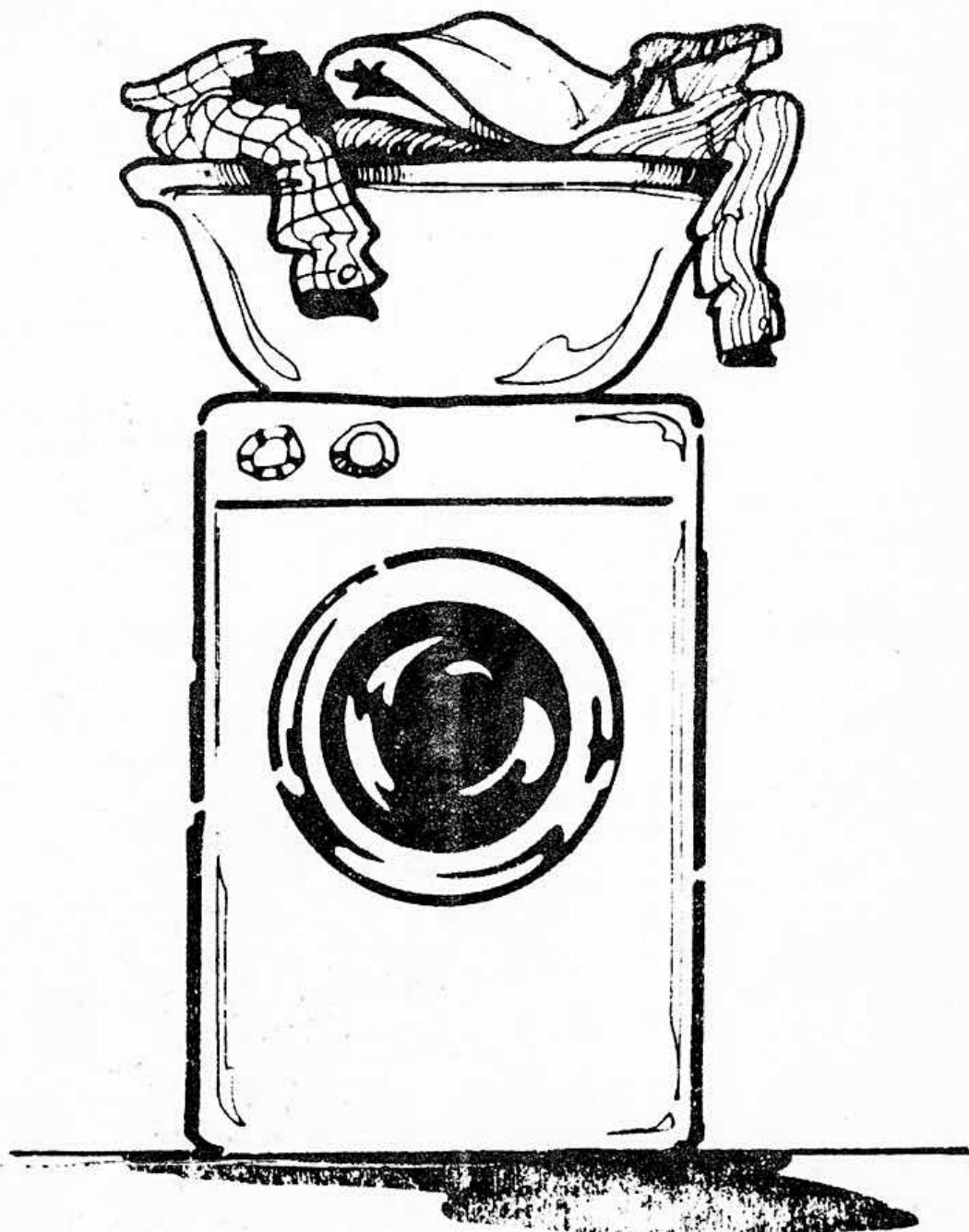
Live Arts for Southwark is a new project lasting from September to December. It has been set up by the Greater London Arts Association (through their Borough Initiative Fund in conjunction with the London Borough of Southwark. We (Jenna Kumiega and Seonaid Stewart) have been appointed as research workers to look into the range of arts activities and facilities in Southwark, and during October and November we hope to contact as many people in the Borough as possible.

We feel that it is time for the arts to cease being a minority experience (and being funded as such) and to come alive - as a means of creative expression for all people, and as an active force in everyday life. We would like to hear your ideas, whatever your involvement in the "arts" may be. We need to know what you are doing at the moment, and what you feel you need to make your work more effective.

We hope that our work will result in new initiatives and projects, and that it will involve the Council in a re-examination of its policy for the arts. Obviously it is very important that anything we propose should reflect the opinions, needs and wishes of the whole community of Southwark.

LIVE ARTS FOR SOUTHWARK can be contacted on 703 2917 (ask for Jenna or Seonaid, pronounced Shona). We look forward to hearing from you.

Supplementary Benefit



Extra Money for Washing

The Manager
DHSS

Name _____
Address _____

Date _____

Dear Sir/Madam,

EXTRA MONEY FOR WASHING

Please give me extra money in my weekly benefit for washing as:-

(TICK ALL THE BOXES THAT APPLY)

☐

The washing cannot be done at home because all adults are ill or disabled.

☐

The washing cannot be done at home because there is no proper way of washing and drying it.

☐

The amount of washing is more than usual because someone wets the bed.

☐

The amount of washing is more than usual because

.....
.....

I estimate the weekly laundry costs as follows:-

LAUNDERETTE

or

HOME

Washing Machine _____

Hot Water _____

Spinner _____

Electricity for Wash _____

Dryer _____

Wear of Washer _____

Powder _____

Powder _____

TOTAL _____

TOTAL _____

I have needed help with my washing costs since _____

I would like my claim backdated to than.

Yours faithfully

WHO CAN GET EXTRA MONEY FOR WASHING ?

- * You must be getting supplementary benefit, or just about to claim.
- * You must have one of these special reasons:
 - your washing can't be done at home because all the adults are sick or disabled.
 - your washing can't be done at home because there is no proper way of washing and drying it.
 - you've got to do extra washing because someone wets the bed.
 - you've got to do extra washing because of other reasons like illness or skin disease.

HOW MUCH WILL YOU GET?

- * You will have to work out roughly how much you spend each week on washing, either at home or at the launderette.
- * The regulations say that the social security have to knock off 45p and they may knock off another 50p if you get the long term rate of benefit.
- * What's left will be added to your weekly money.
- * If you qualify for the extra weekly money the social security should pay you arrears from the time you first needed extra help.

HOW DO YOU CLAIM?

- * Fill in the form opposite, cut it out, and send it or take it to your local social security office.

Published by Blackfriars Advice Centre,
44, Nelson Square
London, SE1 0QA

