

SEL

ISSUE 32 MAY 1985 FREE COPY

SAVE OUR HOMES!

Tenants at St Olaves Mansions in Walnut Tree Walk SEL have begun a major campaign to persuade their landlords not to sell their homes to property speculators.

As reported before in SEL, St Olaves Mansions is owned by the Trustees of St Olave, St Thomas and St John United Charities of Druid St, SEL. The Charity, which dates from 1878, recently decided to put St Olaves Mansions up for sale without even having the courtesy to notify tenants. For many years the tenants have complained of very long delays in carrying out repairs and of the rudeness of the Clerk of the Charity, a Mr Rollock.

T.A. formed

The residents have now formed a Tenants Association to protect their interests and hope

to meet with the Trustees to explain their fears. As John Keen, former Southwark Councillor and Mayor and a tenant for over forty years at St Olaves explained:

"The Trustees are ordinary working class people like ourselves and we feel sure that they will understand fears about our homes being sold to speculators. The Charity has already made a vast amount of money this year by selling property in Kennington Rd and Walnut Tree Walk and there is no need to sell St Olaves Mansions in a hurry."

Fears genuine

The fears of the tenants are indeed genuine. One of the bids for the homes has come from ASDA Property Holdings (no connection with the ASDA supermarkets) of Hampstead. This company has a policy of buying up tenanted blocks of



John Keen outside St.Olaves mansions

flats and selling them off as they become vacant. Also, the Government is now seriously considering removing rent controls in the near future. For blocks like St Olaves, this would mean massive rent rises and little security of tenure.

Local MP Stuart Holland and councillors Terry Rich and Kathy Connolly are strongly supporting the campaign of the Tenants Association. The new Trustees appointed to the Charity by Southwark Council are also willing to listen to the tenants of St Olaves.

UNEMPLOYMENT -

THERE IS AN ALTERNATIVE

ACCORDING TO A REPORT PUBLISHED IN MARCH OF THIS YEAR BY SOUTHWARK COUNCIL'S DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, 3 TIMES AS MANY PEOPLE ARE UNEMPLOYED NOW IN THE BOROUGH AS THERE WERE IN APRIL 1979. THIS INCREASE HAS MEANT THAT SEVEN PEOPLE A DAY, ALMOST FIFTY A WEEK, HAVE ADDED TO THE UNEMPLOYMENT TOTALS. DURING THIS SAME PERIOD, THE NUMBER OF VACANCIES AT JOB CENTRES AND EMPLOYMENT OFFICES FELL BY MORE THAN HALF.

The total number of those out of work in Southwark in March 1985, according to official Department of Employment figures, was 20,957, or 20% of the working population. But the real level of unemployment is without doubt much higher, because the Government has deviously removed those not receiving benefits, mostly women, and men over 60 years of age who are now virtually pensioned off, from the rolls. In addition there are several hundred thousand young people on training schemes - with no hope of a job in the end.

In their Annual Report for 1984, Southwark Trades Council puts male unemployment in Peckham at 28.5%, amongst the highest in the country. And in a study carried out in the summer of 1983 for the North Southwark Community Development Group, male unemployment in North Southwark was put at 28%. Since then, the situation has worsened.

Southwark Council's report also finds that long term unemployment, which at one time affected older workers, now affects everyone. Especially hard hit have been the 16-24

year olds. The report states that short term unemployment for all categories is now becoming a thing of the past in Southwark.

The loss of thousands of jobs in North Southwark has been due to the decline of traditional industries, such as printing, food/drink, transport and distribution. At the same time, the office developments in the area have not provided enough jobs to replace those lost, nor are they the sort of jobs suitable for local people. The majority of office employees

are commuters; less than a quarter live in Southwark or neighbouring boroughs.

Local employment initiatives

Many local community groups and organizations have long campaigned to bring jobs to the area that suit the skills of the local unemployed, or which provide training opportunities in permanent jobs.

continued page 2

The local newspaper!

2 The local community tackles unemployment

The plans for Courages site being jointly developed by the GLC and Southwark Council contains significant employment promise. There will be provision for 24 small industrial workshops - suitable for start-up firms and co-ops - and 6 medium sized factory units.

The principal concern of the Consultative Employment Panel for the site is that maximum benefit is achieved for the local community, including granting leases to firms that meet the employment and training needs of the local labour force.

The employment strategy of the North Southwark Plan places the emphasis on the community rather than on firms. Land use policies in the plan cover the protection of industrial and commercial floorspace; land has been allocated for new industrial development; vacant industrial buildings can be converted to workshops - as in the case of the Council provided workshops at 164 Union St. All these policies are designed to preserve and create jobs in the area.

The Coin Street site will contain substantial employment-generating capacity: 126,000 sq.ft. of light industrial space, as well as some 67,000 sq.ft. of shopping and recreational space. The Coin St. employment strategy has been guided by two goals: (1) to increase the range of job opportunities in Inner London and redress the imbalance between office work and other types of employment; (2) to improve the overall economic well-being of the area.

It was thought that the best way to achieve these goals was to build a light industrial complex in which a variety of small businesses are brought together under one roof sharing costs and facilities. The workshop complex will have a daycare centre and space for meetings and displays. There is also a commitment to start training programmes and implement an equal opportunities policy.

Elephant Jobs for instance, was set up in North Southwark and North Lambeth in 1976 to promote employment opportunities for out of work youth



THESE SMALL COMMUNITY INITIATIVES TAKEN TOGETHER CAN HELP BRING DOWN UNEMPLOYMENT, SHOWING THAT THERE IS AN ALTERNATIVE TO JOB CENTRES.

through its own training and education programmes, in basic engineering, printing, woodwork and office skills. In addition, it provides workshop space to those seeking to start up new businesses.

Waterloo Employment Project was set up to improve the employment prospects of local people and to halt the long decline of local industry. It runs a drop-in service giving advice to the unemployed,

legal advice, and setting up small businesses. Among its work, it also campaigns for workplace nurseries, and provides short-courses to help develop the skills in seeking work.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Courages: Stewart, 928 0711
Coin St: Gwen, 633 6402
Elephant Jobs: 928 1851
WEP: Manny, 928 8024

CHARTERHOUSE

1985 OLYMPICS-FAIR

Hundreds of children and adults enjoyed fine weather and fun events at Charterhouse-in-Southwark's 1985 Olympics/Fair, held in Tabard Gardens on 18th April during the half-term break.

The accent was on the athletic side with football, Tug O'War, dancing competitions, one-wheeled cyclists and a fun run led by British olympian Sebastian Coe. The pupils of St Trinians treated the spectators to some energetic displays of netball.

Popular participation in all activities was high as evidenced by the number of children lining up to receive their certificates from Seb Coe at the end of a highly enjoyable day.



KEYBOARD COOP

LOOKING FOR A NEW MEMBER

IF YOU ARE WILLING TO LEARN HOW TO WORK IN A COOPERATIVE

AND CAN TYPE QUICKLY AND ACCURATELY

PLEASE PHONE CATH ON 671 6811

!!!COMING SOON!!! 27TH JULY

The 2nd Boro Festival!

WATCH THIS SPACE

UPB supermarket

Flat Iron Square, Union St

TRY US

For food, drink, and household goods

The cheapest shop between Long Lane & Blackfriars Rd in a recent SEL survey.

BLACKFRIARS IN THE 1920'S

Interview with Bill Owen - Part 2

Entertainment

There was so much entertainment in 8th London that you didn't have to look any further. In Blackfriars Road alone there was a Cinema called the Central. It was nicknamed the Bake because it was so hot inside that you really baked in there. Going along from the Central was the Ring at Union St, open 7 days a week, a boxing ring where people like Freddy Mills, Jack Doyle, and other famous boxers knocked the life out of each other for thirty bob. There was a Chapel called the Surrey Chapel where some of us used to go. We went because some geaser said if you get so many points you get a holiday down in the country.

Then there was the pub which I'm sure was called The Engine and is now called The Ring. Further up you came to the Surrey Theatre. Now this is a bit controversial because people even of my age and some older don't remember it. Then you came to the Salvation Army and the Eye Hospital. In the centre was a clock called the Obelisk. Where it went, you nicked it nobody knows. Down London Rd going toward the Elephant, was the South London Music Hall a famous place where some of the world's famous



entertainers, singers, comedians, you name it appeared, for threepence a night. In the gods, you wasn't sitting on a cushion. Dan Lino was there. Further down you had Burtons on the corner, the tailors. Above Burtons, above every Burtons in London, was a snooker hall, which I used

because I was a snooker fanatic. Crossing the road you came to what was the old Trocadero Cinema which had a big Wurlitzer organ. When you took your girl-friend there it had to be a pay night or you had to have a couple of bob in your pocket. You saw two feature films, a stage show, you had an organ recital, and you also saw

the Pathe Gazette news of the world and if you paid ninepence you were really hitting the town. This was in the Old Kent Rd at the Elephant. Outside there Tommy Trinder sold oranges at the Trocadero as a barrow boy and finished up inside on the stage. Opposite there was another theatre where they showed such things as Todd Slaughter's Maria in a Red Barn, Sweeney Todd's The Demon Barber of Fleet St - all the bloodthirsty stuff.

Shopping

Mum did her shopping in the Cut. In those days it started at Blackfriars Rd. It was a bigger market and you could go up to 9 o'clock at night



Bill in his garden

to do your shopping and they were lit up by kerosene lamps. One of the best features of the market were the butchers shop. Not only did they sell joints of beef, shoulders of lamb and so on, but they also sold cooked stuff, faggots, pease pudding. You could buy suesages. You name it and they sold it. They were the basic cheap diet of the working class family, cheap cuts of meat. There was nothing in cans, nothing frozen. Tripe, I eat tripe and onions today. You'd walk into the butcher and ask for two yards of tripe. They would measure it. On his block he had a ruler.

Accommodation Available

Edward Henry Housing Co-operative in Waterloo presently has two vacant 2-bedroom flats which have been designed particularly for disabled people. Each flat is on the ground floor with full central heating and each has its own garden. Rents for the flats (excluding rates but including service charges) are 14.91 and 15.70 per week respectively.

Applicants should live in either Lambeth or Southwark and their local councils should be willing to nominate them. As these are family flats, we would particularly welcome applications from families one of whose members is disabled.

As a housing co-operative, members of Edward Henry manage and administer their own affairs entirely and we would expect applicants to participate in the running of the Co-operative to the level that their disabilities allow.

Further information and an application form can be obtained from the Membership Secretary, Judy Smith, 4 Henry House, Coin St, SE1 8YE or ring 928 8806.

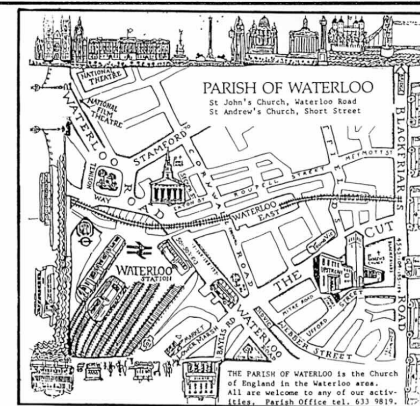
Edward Henry has an equal opportunities policy and we welcome applications from all members of the community in Lambeth and Southwark.

Wedding Bell

Saturday 20th April was an eventful day in Waterloo. It saw the wedding of Christine Bell, of Edward Henry House Coop and Kevin Bagnell of Wellington Mills.

The wedding took place at Christ Church and Upton Chapel with a reception at John Marshall Hall. Martin Bell, father of Christine, revealed his scottish ancestry (as well as his knees!) by wearing his clan kilt.

SEL sends its best wishes to Christine and Kevin.



Upstream Children's Theatre offers workshops in dancing and drama every week, for children from 4-12 years. Each session costs 50 pence, and they are open to any child who'd like to have a go at making plays, clowning around, mime, make-up, dancing and music.

MONDAYS 4.15-5.00 Dance for 4-7's
5.00-5.45 Dance for 8-12's

TUESDAYS 5.00-6.30 Drama for 7-12's

SAUNDAYS 1.00-3.00 Drama for 4-12's

If you'd like more details, contact Roy Royle, 633 9819, or just come along to a session and try it out!

UCT tutors are also available for visits to youth clubs and play-schemes, in term time and during the holidays.

UPSTREAM CHILDREN'S THEATRE
St Andrew's, Short Street, Waterloo
London SE1 8JL 01 633 9819



THANKS

After 18 July Bryn Davies will no longer be our GLC councillor for Vauxhall. This will be a great loss for the Lambeth end of the SE1 area as Bryn has been an excellent councillor for us for many, many years - both for the GLC and on Lambeth council. No-one has greater knowledge of local issues than Bryn and he has used this, together with his socialist principles, his intelligence and a great deal of his own time to work hard for us on local issues such as Coia Street, Tanswell Estate, Aquinas Street and



Whatever the papers and the telly make of the V.E. Day celebrations, the people of Waterloo who lived through that time will not forget the cost of that victory - those who lost their lives both at home and abroad. Apart from a brief spell in Wales where her father worked in munitions, LOU SHEPPERD spent the war years in Waterloo and she writes here about her memories of those times.

MEMORIES

MEMORIES OF V E DAY

They say "remember V.E. Day", but in fact my memory of V.E. Day is quite blurred. I know we celebrated with a street party in Tanswell Estate courtyard and that some yanks joined in - they must have been from one of the Ack-Ack batteries dotted around Seven Oaks. D-day is much clearer in my mind. I was shopping in Lower Marsh when the news came over the radio and everyone was really excited - we thought the war was as good as over.

But what I most remember, and always will, is my school friends who died in the bombing in the Cut. There were three sisters and their eldest sister's baby and their mother. In the same shelter were many people that lived and kept shops in Waterloo. Two hundred people were killed in the Cut. The houses and shops were all destroyed too, because the firemen couldn't get water up from the river. I am always sad when I think of all those people - our market was such a bustling place; so many stalls from the end of the Cut at Blackfriars through Lower Marsh to Westminster Bridge Road. It used to go on till 12 o'clock on Friday and Saturday Nights. All the stalls were different - not like today - and they were lit by lanterns which made it a fascinating place, especially for the children.

I would like to remember my friends I spent night after night with in the shelters. We spent the early part of the blitz in an underground shelter by the river in the Lion Brewery (the stone statue of the lion is now on Westminster Bridge). But three bombs fell in the water one night and they realised that the river might flood the shelter if it was hit. So we moved to a shelter under the arches in Sutton Street. We thought we were safe there, but of course any one of us could have been killed in them but for the Grace of God.

The sirens would generally go off between 6 and 7 o'clock at night and we'd be in the shelters till the all-clear at 6 or 7 in the morning. We used to play cards mostly, and we'd boil up eggs in an old pot. Occasionally we'd have a sing-song, but that was more in the tubes. We never used the underground because it was so crowded - people packed in like sardines. They used to run the trains into the platforms and people would sleep in the seats - but it was like an oven in there. One woman spent the war down the tube, only coming out to have a bath.

One night towards the end of '44 we had just gone into the shelter - I was playing cards with friends, and my mum, who was in a wheelchair by then, was down at the local - the Watermans Arms - for a drink. Then we heard a V1 flying bomb come over. They used to make a terrific engine noise and then they'd cut out and drop straight down. This one stopped above us. I was sure it was going to hit the pub and I tried to run out of the shelter. But my friends got hold of me and held me back till the V1 had exploded. When we got down the pub, there was my mum, sitting all alone in the wheelchair. The others had gone down to the cellar and had to leave her where she was. The V1 had gone on and hit the other side of the river - by Cleopatra's Needle.

During one raid, St. John's All Saints was hit. Only the shell was left but a hundred and fifty people walked out of

the shelter in the crypt beneath, all alive. Not everyone was so lucky. One morning towards the end of the war, my family had just got home from the Sutton Street shelter when a flying bomb fell on the Waterloo tube station in York Road. Hundreds of people were on their way to work and three buses were caught in the blast. After that we never went down the shelters again - it didn't seem worth it if you could be killed like that.

We should remember our men and women who were away from home then, fighting for us in an unknown land - some forgotten, yes forgotten, so let's remember them now. They died so that we could go on and build a better world. We try to do that in Waterloo: we fight for health and homes and jobs for our young people. So we must remember the soldiers, nurses, doctors, firemen, air raid wardens, all our people who fought and died so that we could do all of these things. Let's remember also the Americans and our other allies; the Russians lost 20 million people between fighting, bombing and starvation through the bitter cold winters of their part of the war.

Some young people of today say, "Why did you fight? Why have a war?" I say to them, "ask the French and the Belgians and the Dutch. Ask all Europeans, yes even ask the Germans of today. They will tell you."

So enjoy V.E. Day, but don't ever forget them - Jackie Blackburn of Tanswell Estate, Tommy Murray from Roupell St., the Whalleys (Bubbles and her baby, Rose, Alice and their mum) killed in the cut, Les Bennett's dad, and all the others.....



BRYN!

The Cut, and on thousands of constituents' problems mostly about housing. A very special and valued characteristic of Bryn's has been his insistence on consulting the community about both what he should do, and how he should do it.

The councillor job has been so demanding and he has been so conscientious that he has had to sacrifice his own career over the last 10 years. Now is the time to change that Bryn has decided. After his well-deserved holiday abroad we wish him well in a new career. THANK YOU, BRYN

Fancy a Visit to Leeds Castle or Richmond Park?

Monday June 3rd Coach Trip
Leeds Castle, Kent.
Tickets from Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road.

Special Offer - inclusive of entrance to the castle and coach travel - £2.75 adults, £2.25 OAP's.
PLACES LIMITED, so book early.

Monday August 6th

Boat Trip to Richmond Park

Details in next issue of SE1.

The Amenities Group also held 2 successful events for children and teenagers during the Easter holidays, a puppet show - Judy and Punch! and a body-popping workshop at Colombo St Sports Centre.

If you are interested in helping to organise these events and outings, or have any suggestions for future activities, please contact Jeanette or Dolly at Waterloo Action Centre, tel: 261 1404.

WOMEN STAND UP AND FIGHT

Self Defence

Quentin House
Women's Group

Is organising a self-defence course for women in the Quentin House, Webber Row estates and immediate area. We aim to bring women together to discuss issues that concern them and to promote women's interest in the area.

If interested contact:
Miriam in Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road -
Tel: 261 1404

THE SECOND

Arrival at Cherry Garden Pier



Food for All



A Barge arrives



The Second People's Armada took place on April 4th. Two thousand docklanders though who were expecting a great event on the Thames in protest against the land grabs of the London Docklands Development Corporation - the government appointed and run planning authority for Docklands - turned up at various piers only to find that the boat owners had locked out the workers who were in dispute at the time but had agreed to work on the day of the Armada. Nevertheless, everyone was brought by coach to Jubilee Gardens to welcome the few boats which set sail. The rest of the day's events went ahead as planned with an afternoon of free events, entertainment and food, and was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

Entertainment in the Park



PEOPLE'S ARMADA

No Land-Grabs!



After lunch entertainment



PHOTOS: Maria Luiza Carvalho

6 GOOD NEWS

New Housing in Waterloo

NEW-BUILD RENTED HOUSING STARTS ON SITE IN MORLEY ST

Believe it or not, some new housing is about to be built in Waterloo!

For a number of years, the Society for Co-operative Dwellings and Pearman St Coop have been developing a scheme for the site at 7-12 Morley St in conjunction with WilliamsWinkley, Architects.

The site was bought with GLC funding in 1982 and went out to tender in early 1984. News of the DoE's approval to the lowest tender came from the GLC in the same letter which told us that the GLC had no money for the scheme, due to government cuts.

In the intervening year, we felt at times that nothing would ever be done with the site: the Housing Corporation and Lambeth both declined to offer funding. We ourselves looked at and dismissed Building Society financing.

Suddenly, in February this year, word came through from the GLC Housing Department that the project would go ahead after all. Work started on site on 15th April and by February next year, the Coop

should have three 3-bedroom and three 4-bedroom houses with gardens for fair rent.

AQUINAS STREET NEW-BUILD

In conjunction with a steering group of local residents, SCD has been working on a scheme for the site behind the terrace of 1-12 Aquinas St.

Despite protracted negotiations over the sale price with the GLC, approval for the project was given in March. Subject to government approval to the sale, the site should be acquired by SCD on behalf of the future Aquinas Street Housing Co-op in the next few months.

The scheme approved by the Housing Corporation will provide 13 units of varying sizes including two specifically designed for wheelchair users. It has been designed by the SCD Architects Group.

Detailed design work will take place over the next 6-9 months. We hope to get Housing Corporation approval to start building work in 1986.



Pearman Street site

With a bit of luck, these houses will be ready for letting in two to two and a half years time.

HOUSING ON THE CUT SITE

Local residents with long memories may know that over a number of years, proposals have been put to various bodies for the redevelopment of the large site opposite the Old Vic in the Cut.

A variety of proposals for rented housing were rejected on the grounds that the site was unsuitable for families. Late last year, a public meeting at Waterloo Action Centre considered the

problem. It was agreed that SCD architects would work on a new scheme providing a wider mix of units, including a number for the elderly. The Housing Corporation have confirmed that they are much happier with the new proposals but haven't said they would fund it.

We all knew the £1.3 million scheme was a long-shot, but we are optimistic that with a bit of lobbying for which Waterloo groups are renowned, we stand a decent chance of getting the scheme approved.

Tim Goodwin
Development Officer
Society for Co-operative Dwellings

RATES WARNING in Lambeth

Lambeth are still continuing not to set a rate for this year to show their opposition to the government's policy and gain much needed extra resources to provide services for the local community.

However, if you are a private tenant or owner occupier who is receiving a rate rebate, you will need to check any rate bill you have recently received for the year 1984/85. Due to a mistake in the rate department some people have received rates bills higher than they should have: with rates rebates added

to rather than taken off the full rates.

For example:
General Rate - £500
Rate Rebate - £200

Total Amount Payable - £700
instead of a real figure of £300!

Advice

If this affects you, then take your rate demand and details and get advice from:

Waterloo Action Centre
14 Baylis Rd Mon- Fri
Tel: 261 1404 10am-2pm

Consumer Advice Centre
Lambeth Walk Tues-Sat
Tel: 737 3311 9.30-4pm
Weds 9.30-1pm

North Lambeth Law Centre
Kernington Lane
Tel: 382 4425

Labour Party Advice Surgery
China Walk Tenants Hall
Lambeth Walk SE11
Every Thursday 6.30-7.30pm

LABOUR working for you locally...

TERRY RICH &
KATHY CONNELLY
our LABOUR councillors
on Lambeth council

Surgery
EVERY THURSDAY EVENING 6.45-7.30
at China Walk Tenants Hall,
Lambeth Walk, SE1

Cathedral Ward Branch SOUTHWARK-BERMONDSEY CONSTITUENCY Labour Party

Cllr. Alan Davis &
Cllr. Geoff Williams

ADVICE SESSIONS

If you have a problem they would be glad to see you on:

2nd and 4th Fridays of the month at:
Blackfriars Settlement
Nelson Square from 7.00-8.15 pm.

working for a future in Waterloo

NEXT MEETINGS

6.00 pm Wednesday May 8th
"Protecting shops in Waterloo"

7.00 pm Wednesday May 15th
General meeting
both at: 99 Upper Ground, SE1

Everyone welcome!

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GROUP

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LATE NIGHT OPENING.

S. E. 1. POETRY

The last issue of SE1 certainly unleashed the creative talent of local residents! Our request for poems has produced an overwhelming response and we print below a selection of the poems received. All different and all written with care and attention. Next time the Queen needs a Poet Laureate she only needs to cross the water to SE1 for a wide choice!

Next issue we want to encourage all those writers out there. So come on all you budding Charles Dickens and send us your short stories. Any subject, any title up to 500 words; to SE1 Newspaper, 12 Meymott St, SE1.

SUB-CONTRACTS!

Munro House & Tanswell Estate have been experiencing terrible problems with contractors employed by Lambeth Council. The contractors are employed to fix windows and doors and are leaving a trail of doors that do not close, windows painted before any repairs are done & work which is shoddy & inadequate. Despite repeated promises from the contractors, workmen disappear from the site sometimes for a week on end & tenants are left wondering whether their work will ever be finished. John McQuittin, Independent Environmental Health Inspector, who examined some of the work, called it unbelievably awful and subsequently one of the contractors, D.S.C. Beckenham, was discharged from the job. The problem however continues. Enquiries as to whether the D.S.C. Beckenham have also been removed from the approved list of contractors as the tenants want, have yet to be answered by Lambeth Council.

TANSWELL FACELIFT

Tanswell's facelift is going well. The work is ahead of contract and looks as if it will be finished one month earlier than expected in April 1986. 30 years of work by tenants to get the scheme off the ground have paid off but the battles are not over yet. At one point it looked as if the GLC were not going to have enough money to install the entryphone system promised and it was only intense pressure from the Action Group which stopped the windowboxes and damp-proofing being cut out of the scheme. The GLC is now trying to come up with the extra £10,000 needed to cover the costs.

As the scheme progresses more and more evidence of Lambeth and the GLC's long neglect of this estate have come to light. Drains that go nowhere are common, with rainwater draining into the earth under the blocks causing terrible damp problems to ground floor tenants. A bit of routine maintenance and good workmanship could have made all the difference.



THE PERILS OF INSURANCE

The perils of insurance

The friendly face of the 'Man from the Pru' looks set to disappear from the streets of S.E.1. In an astonishing move the Prudential Insurance Company have more than doubled their household insurance premium for our area. Whereas household insurance cost £7.50 per £1000 insured in 1984, for this year they are asking £15 per £1000 insured. To add insult to injury they have also introduced a compulsory £200 excess for which they will not be liable.

The Prudential blame the high crime rate in inner city areas for this massive increase. Although obviously a factor, it has not affected other insurance companies to anything like the same extent. It seems obvious that the Prudential no longer want our business. In one instance locally the insurance premium went from £106.50 to a staggering £222.45.

In terms of alternatives, both the Trustee Savings Bank and Co-operative Insurance Society offer very competitive terms. For OAP's Age Concern offer specially arranged household insurance - for further details contact: Age Concern, 60 Pitcairn House, Mitcham, Surrey; tel: 640 5431.

HELP! Has anyone got any old containers which could be used to plant flowers or shrubs in barrels, tubs, things like that? If so, please contact Climdsand House TA at the Action Centre (261 1404). They are going to make a walled garden in their courtyard.



NEW HOMES

CAMPBELL BUILDINGS SITE

On May 16th 1985 at 7.30 pm there is a meeting to be held at Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Rd, Waterloo with Social Services Chairperson, Mrs Janet Boeteng and social services planners and managers. The meeting is to discuss a proposed family centre on the site, with the local community Agendas available at Waterloo Action Centre or for more details contact Mary Dowd on 261-1404.

The centre is part of a housing development by Lambeth Council and social services committees. It is to be a social services resource for under-fives and their families providing some day care facilities. The centre is to be also a local community resource, and at present a group of local mums and AWG members meet and discuss possible uses by the community for when the centre is established. People interested in joining these discussions and helping to identify local needs for activities in the Centre, once it is established please contact Waterloo Action Centre for further information.

At present the latest information we have for the commencement of building on the site is that the start date will be July 1985. For people who do not have information in reference to the development of the site, the family centre will be a 2-storey building and the houses which will be built are:
2x two person wheelchair flats on ground floor of three storey blocks;
10x three person flats in three storey blocks incl. at ground floor 2x three person mobility flats;
24x four person houses 2 storey;
7x six person houses 3 storey;
2x six person wheelchair houses 2 storey;
3x eight person houses 3 storey;
2x nine person houses 3 storey.

Anybody interested in applying for housing on this site needs to be registered with Lambeth Council, Brixton. This also applies if a transfer is being requested.

A QUIET THOUGHT!

By Mary Dimond

Half the world is rich,
Half the world is poor,
Half the world needs money,
Half the world wants more

Half the world is fully clothed,
The other half is bare,
Half the world is dying,
The other half don't care.

Half the world is starving,
Half the world is over-fed,
Half the world takes pills at night,
Half the world have no bed.

Half are struggling hard to live,
Half are sitting tight.
Which side are you on brother?
Think, before the night!

Latin Americans in Great Britain

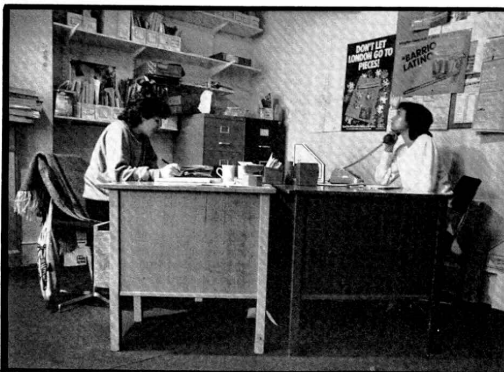
8 Este artículo hace referencia a Latino Americanos que viven en Inglaterra.

El grupo que produjo este artículo, tiene su sede en Brixton. Si Usted desea mas informacion a cerca del grupo y sus actividades puede dirigirse a LACOP, 10 Bernersey Grove, London SW 9. Tel. 737 3619.

immigration

Since the Second World War there has been a wave of migration to Western Europe, including Great Britain; immigration from Latin America is a part of this, but is relatively small and more recent.

Whereas, for Ethnic Minorities originated from the Old British Empire this wave of migration is usually explained along the line "We are here because you were there". This expression is only true in a general sense, in so far as England was a power whose economic development was based on her colonial exploitation of the "Third World". The resulting poverty thus caused those seeking work and wages unobtainable in Latin America, to flock to Industrial Europe. Seeking escape from a marginal continent they came, not to become colonialist but to suffer the same colonial



exploitation and marginalization here; the majority of Latin American immigrants whether unskilled or with technical or professional qualifications work in the domestic industries (cleaning, restaurants) with anti social hours and on lower wages than those of other industries, in an area of work rejected by British workers.

The insecure immigration status of many Latin American workers is used by companies to force them to accept unfavorable conditions of pay and treatment.

growing organization

The Political campaigns engaged against immigration accusing them of being the cause of crisis and the immigration raids are designed to cut down on immigration straight away, but to terrorise and prevent immigrants from organising to defend their rights as a human being and workers.

There are not firm statistics for the number of Latin Americans in London, about half of them being Colombians. The most organised part of the community has been the political refugees, who have set up committees and campaigns for human rights in their home countries in Latin America, but in recent years they have turned to creating community centres provide advice on rights and services and to promote the organisation of Latin Americans in order to overcome collectively problems of survival and cultural development. There is still a considerable degree of organisational disparity in which each group is only concerned with its own area of action or nationality, but there are community groups which promote a wider vision of the problems and closer communication in order to create one community and overcome marginalization together, seeking to preserve their cultural origins and their interest in their continent of origin, while at the same time participating in British Society together with other groups who have problems of being marginalized or discriminated.

For more information you can contact LACOP at 10 Berners Grove, London SW9 Telephone 737 3619

Name that Park

Work progresses a pace on the AMG scheme for the Coin Street sites. Later this year work will start on the park which will stretch from Stamford St to the riverside where the old El Dorado Ice Cream Factory is presently being demolished. The Association of Waterloo Groups decided at its last meeting to try and find a name for this park to put forward to the GLC. We are extending this invitation to all SE1 readers to come up with a suitable name.

The name could commemorate the historical location of the park or individuals involved with the long campaign to secure housing rather than offices on these sites. At the moment the choice is wide open, so let us know your suggestions.

Send them to 'Name That Park', SE1 Newspaper, 12 Meymott St, SE1, or attend the AMG meeting on Tuesday May 14th at the Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road, SE1 at 7 pm.

Films

May sees two major reviews at the National Film Theatre on the South Bank.

The first concerns a tribute to Orson Welles on his 70th birthday. This includes such classics as Citizen Kane (Sunday May 5th at 8.45 pm) as well as Moby Dick (Friday May 17th at 6.15 pm) and Catch-22 (Wednesday May 29th at 8.20 pm).

The second concentrates on the American Musical. It features such stars as Astaire, Rogers,

Kelly, Cagney amongst many others in films such as 42nd Street (Tuesday May 7th at 8.45 pm); Top Hat (Saturday 11th May at 6.30 pm) and Cover Girl (Tuesday 28th May at 8.45 pm).

In reparatory the NFT is also showing recently-made '1984' with John Hurt and Richard Burton in his last major role on Mon-Fri 13-17 May at 2.30 pm daily, Tuesday May 14th at 6.15 pm and Saturday May 18th at 8.45 pm.

The full programme for May is available from the NFT and is free.

COIN STREET COMMUNITY BUILDERS

invite you to visit the Design and Exhibition Centre and temporary park at 99 Upper Ground, SE1 (behind the National Theatre). For further information on Coin Street and the Waterloo area phone 633 9291. The Centre and Park were funded by the Greater London Council.

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PROJECT

LETTERS

Dear SE1,

I was interested in the photograph of the children in the photo. I knew Bill Speight many years ago. I first met him in the 15th Southwark Scouts which was situated in the Allied Institute in Chancel Street. We went to camp at Kingston Bridge near Abingdon. We went by Barnsley Perkins lorry to Paddington and from there to Wantage Road. Then one of Mr. Strauss' lorries picked us up and took us to his estate.

Mr Strauss was the MP for North Southwark in those days.

Bill Speight left the scouts to pump the organ at the Stamford Chapel in Stamford Street. There is some faces I recognise but can't bring their names to date.

Yours truly,

G. F. Morley

P.S. We do not get SE1 in this Alms House although it is in Southwark.

Editors note: We will ensure that the residents of St. Saviours receive SE1 on a regular basis

Lamp-Posts

Dear Sir:

The retention of the 'traditional' lamp-posts in Aquinas, Duchy and Coin Streets may lie in the hands of the residents of those streets.

The Lambeth Estate Conservation Area (which includes Whittlesey and Roupell Street) has an active residents' association and it is the collective watchfulness and action of this body and individual residents over the years which has secured for those streets the retention of the existing lamp standards and other threatened amenities.

There are no 'wealthy owner-occupiers' of the houses in these streets. The owners of the houses, who have done much to rescue the houses and the district from decay, are over-taxed, over-rated, hard-working lawyers, doctors, architects, teachers, designers and similar professional people, or operators of small businesses providing much needed employment, all playing an important part in the national daily life, or similar people, retired, whose retirement incomes are taxed a second time to provide the funds so readily distributed by the authorities.

Yours faithfully,

Eric Brown FRIBA

Dear SE1

I was glad to read in Issue 30 of SE1 that our local councillors - Alan Davis and Geoff Williams - are determined to take a stand against ratecapping.

We need our services and it is impossible to state too strongly what serious damage will be done if the Government gets away with slashing services in Southwark. It is particularly bad for senior citizens, meals on wheels, sheltered housing schemes abandoned and a fall in home helps.

I was also amused to see that Simon Hughes is against ratecapping too. Readers should be invited to spot a cause he hasn't supported. I doubt if there would be many takers.

Nick Murray
Union St, SE1

Play it again, Sam!

Dear SE1

As a resident of Bankside, I attended the meeting of the Globe Theatre called by Sam Wannamaker on March 16th at Boro Poly. A lot of old flannel was spoken but what wasn't mentioned was the office content of the site. This is hoodwinking people into thinking that the site is just for the Globe Theatre when there is a lot of offices going to be built.

Ralph Cooper
Summer Buildings

POEM

A LOOK INSIDE THE STARS
By CHRISTOPHER SMITH

ARIES: the ram with horns of gold,
TAURUS: the bull of charge so bold,
GEMINI: the twins, set off a spark,
CANCER: the crab scuttling in the dark,
LEO: the lion, magnificent and proud,
VIRGO: the virgin, clad in the clouds,
LIBRA: the scales, keep the balance steady,
SCORPIO: the scorpion, sting at the ready,
SAGITTARIUS: the centaur of wonderful aim,
CAPRICORN: the goat, fearless, but tame,
AQUARIUS: the water-carrier, beaver of brave,
PISCES: the fish, keeper of the waves,
The sky at night is beautiful, planets, Jupiter, Mars,
And I know what goes on up there, because I look at the stars. *****

GARDENING

WITH KEIB THOMAS

keep GLC Working for London



Hosta Sieboldi

The month of May is always a busy time for gardeners. Over the last five years, spring has been late arriving. This year has been no exception with near freezing winds throughout the last week of April. However late, spring does usually arrive bringing us those hot days once again in May. After the first week of May there is little risk of frost damage in central London.

It's time to sow annuals in pots, windowboxes or open ground. Local shops and George and Margaret's plant stall in Waterloo market

have strips of bedding plants and many pot grown perennials and shrubs on sale and ready for planting out now.

Plan now for a good summer display, why not grow a specimen plant in a tub or large bucket sized pot? Variegated grasses are cheerful plants that are hardy and have a striking form. Hosta Sieboldi have stunning blue/green leaves and mauve flower spikes that last a long time. Both will thrive in a peat based compost, keep them well watered in a sunny or partially shaded spot.



Variegated Grass

SE1 DIARY

Charterhouse-in-Southwark has a new director: Steve Lancashire. He previously worked for ILEA as a Youth Officer for 6 years. He was brought up in Waterloo and now lives near the Elephant and Castle. For more information on the future work of Charterhouse, contact him on 407 1123.

National Theatre: Caryl Churchill will be reading excerpts from several of her books at Lyttelton Theatre on Thursday 9th May at 6pm. Books included are *Vinegar Tom*, *Owners* and *Trips*. Caryl is known locally for her support of the AWG scheme for Coin St. Tickets are £1.80 and there are group concessions.

Subscription Rates: With immediate effect, group subscription rates for SE1 will be increased to £5 per annum. Our present rates are not enough to cover postage. Even at the new rate it's still a bargain to be kept informed of all the latest developments in SE1.

Office Let: Sea Containers House on the riverside looks like being let to the computer company ICL. However, as in most of these cases, there is unlikely to be any new jobs. ICL will probably close its existing London offices and transfer staff to the new office.

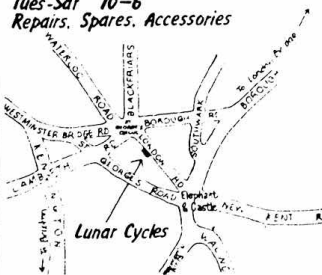
The building of a hotel was one of the main reasons planning permission was granted in the 1970's to the Kings Reach Development. Needless to say it never happened and we are now saddled with what must be one of the ugliest office developments in London.

SE1 EDITORIAL GROUP

Bob Gibbs, Sally Howe,
John Howes, Margaret Schofield,
Dave Scott, Peter Simmons,
Keib Thomas, Gerry Vignola,
Paul Wheeler

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Health Report contradicts Authority strategy

A recently published report by the Aberdeen University's Health Economics Research Unit, commissioned by the Lewisham and North Southwark Health Authority in 1983, contradicts the policy the Authority management is presently trying to push forward. This involves concentrating all its health services at Guy's and Lewisham Hospitals. This policy would involve closure of three smaller hospitals as well as the permanent closure of Outpatients at St Olave's Hospital.

The report says that it would be cheaper to keep all five hospitals open. In addition, many of those who responded to the Health Authority's consultation process concerning the future of health services over the next ten years, also argued on health care grounds against the closure of the smaller general hospitals. They often provide a local service and don't involve the waiting times suffered by outpatients at Guy's.

Many Health Authority members are also unhappy at the two site strategy and the way in which the management appear to be pushing forward on this assumption even though the plans are still at the consultation stage. Members at the monthly meeting of the Authority on 22nd April complained that they had not received a copy of the report from Aberdeen University and wish to discuss the closures programme in the light of the report.

DENNEY'S SHOP

Who said all of our friendly corner shops are disappearing? This may be the trend, but we still have some local corner shops left which are much desired and needed by the local community.

One in particular is the shop known as 'Dennys', which is on the corner of Hatfields and Roupell St. Once it was just a newsagents, tobacconists and confectionist. But now having changed management, over a year ago, the new owners have been able to provide more shopping as well as display space within the same area. Facilities for the customer are greatly improved and a much needed range of food has been added to the shelves. The kind of food we always seem to be running out of - bread, milk, sugar, etc. This is especially useful for the elderly and mums with kids.

It is not only the range of things which impresses the customers, but the patience

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CLAPHAM POOL
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**Rate capping
makes no sense.**



and kindness shown by Mr Patel and Mr Umadkat. They always have time to make you welcome even when they are very busy. This even after a few problems with schoolkids.

Mr Patel was attacked a few

months ago in a hold-up at the shop. We are glad to report that he was not seriously hurt.

We congratulate all concerned with the corner shop, and long may they be successful.