

SE1

New riverside park opened

The Mayor of Southwark, Councillor Rita Sergeant, opened London's newest park last month in a ceremony boycotted by local residents. Tooley Street tenants decided to stay away from the opening because, they say, they were not invited to attend.

The park, bordering the Thames on the western side of Tower Bridge, has long been sought by Bermondsey residents who for years have campaigned to open up the riverside to the public and bring more open space to an area dominated by traffic and bricks and mortar.

Under an agreement signed in 1982 between the outgoing Southwark Council and St Martin's Property Company, the developers of London Bridge City undertook to provide a public park by the river. The deal, which also involved land swaps and the sale of the Bethel Estate, was opposed by residents at the time.

Later, when they saw there was no way out of the legally binding agreement, residents decided to push for the park to be landscaped and opened as soon as possible. Tooley

Street Tenants Association worked with council landscape architects on ideas for the park.

It was because they were closely involved all along on the development of the park that they felt angry at not being invited to the opening. Lil Patrick, from the Tenants Association, told SE1 that residents plan to hold their own opening ceremony next month.

The Mayor, Rita Sergeant, was unaware that local residents hadn't been invited and expressed her regret about it. In her speech at the opening Rita recalled that the Tooley Street frontage of the new park was until the late nineteenth century a burial ground owned by St John's Church. It fell into disrepair and in the 1920's it was laid out as a children's park called Tooley Street Childrens Playground.

The park is well landscaped with many young trees planted. Unfortunately, during last October's storm, a number of very old plane trees in the old Children's Playground were uprooted. In one of London's most privel-



The Mayor, Rita Sergeant, opening new riverside park

eged positions, the park has superb views of the river, Tower Bridge and the Tower of London.

The new park was not named during the ceremony. The

Mayor said that the name would come from consultation with those local residents, unfortunately absent from the official opening, who had put so much effort into its realisation.

Call for wheel clamping in North Southwark

Following last month's front page story in SE1 about illegal car parking, local pressure group North Southwark Community Development Group has called on the Minister for Roads and Traffic, Mr Peter Bottomley, to introduce the wheel clamp into North Southwark.

In a letter to the Minister they have invited him to visit the area personally to get a first hand idea of what residents have to put up with daily - motorists parked with impunity on yellow lines, on pavements, access roads and on council estates.

The Group points out that in recent years the volume of traffic passing through the north of the borough has increased enormously. New office developments along and

close to the riverside have brought in their train thousands of extra commuters in cars causing great inconvenience to local residents and damage to the environment.

The wheel clamp is in operation in the City of London, the City of Westminster and part of the London Borough of Camden. By all accounts its operation has had a considerable deterrent effect on commuters illegally parking their vehicles on the streets of these inner London boroughs.

North Southwark Community Development Group doesn't believe that the wheel clamp is the complete answer to the problem. Restricting traffic in London may well require the solution adopted recently



Great Suffolk Street: commuters abuse public garden

by the city of Rome - a complete ban on all commuter traffic in the city centre.

If you wish to support the campaign to introduce the wheel clamp in North South-

wark, write to:

Mr Peter Bottomley
Minister for Roads and
Traffic
2 Marsham Street
London SW1 P3EB

ST GEORGE'S CLINIC, BLACKFRIARS

Many people walk past St George's Clinic in Blackfriars Road without giving it a backward glance. It's a brown, somewhat dingy building, with several bits of predictable graffiti, but step inside and you find a different world, a hive of activity centering around the health of local people.

Several hundred people visit the Clinic every week using facilities which cover children's dental care, family planning, speech therapy, an audiology unit for children's hearing, a children's health clinic, marriage guidance and an extremely popular chiropody clinic for pensioners.

"A lot of people are surprised to find we even exist", said Helen Coombe, the 'patch' administrator at the Clinic, who came to St George's from New Cross.

Helen told me that most people who attend the Clinic are referred by their GP or Health Visitor, and said that

there were no plans to create closer links with local GPs and organisations like tenants associations to find out the real health needs of people living in the area. The aim is to provide a local Health Forum. It will also help to reduce costs.

"It was very expensive running it from the Clinic", said Helen, who pointed out that the services at St George's helped to prevent people going into hospital. "We are dealing with the quality of people's lives here", she continued.

One particular area of concern is the effect of health cuts on the lives of women. "I notice it more and more", said Helen, "it's always the women who have to carry everything."

She pointed out that despite the advances made by women in the last twenty years, they were now being increasingly forced back into the home to carry the burdens of the sick and the elderly. "There is



much more reliance now on home carers and family support", continued Helen.

One of the many things Helen hopes to do is have the Clinic redecorated though "it looks as though I might have to do it myself", said Helen. Possible future plans at St George's Clinic may include cervical screening and a Well

Pensioner Clinic.

But despite these problems she manages to remain optimistic. Helen is an enthusiastic woman who is helping to bring a fresh outlook to health care locally.

Anne Critchley

GARDENING

July is usually dry and warm, so watering and pulling up stray weeds before they can seed themselves are priorities this month. It's worth remembering that 'one year's seeds mean seven years' weeds'; nature has so arranged things that weed seeds are timed to germinate not all at once but spread over at least a seven year cycle.

Not all wild flowers are weeds and not all weeds are unwanted. Many of you may have noted the many red poppies in SE1 area, in Nelson Square and Mulberry Coop for instance. Many people have asked me where they come from. Poppies are annuals which traditionally grow in cornfields especially. Their seeds can lie dormant in the soil for 100 years! But once the soil is turned over the poppies will germinate and grow.

Towards the end of June and beginning of July the midsummer flowers are in full flush. So now is a good time to visit parks and gardens to get ideas for next year. All parks will have shrub and perennial borders to look at and possibly a display of annuals or bedding plants. Close at hand, take a look at Copperfield Street Community Garden in SE1.

A few of the plants in flower

there at the moment are roses, fuschias, Welsh poppies, lillies, delphiniums, red and white foxgloves, evening primrose, wild chamemile, hollyhocks, campion, echinops, helenium, coreopsis, carnations, clematis, passion flower, cistus and dahlias.

Its style is a mixture of cottage garden and perennial border. It has a lawn that is well kept, free of dog droppings and delightfully flecked with daisy and clover flowers. It's a credit to the local volunteers who run it and is well worth a visit.

My tips for this month are: keep watering, spray any greenfly and any other bugs, look out for caterpillars and visit a park or keep your eyes open when passing other gardens for new planting ideas for next year. July is a perfect month for growing perennials from seed and it's not too late to grow annuals...but keep them well watered.

Hey Presto

"Scotland's finest" is the boast of Presto food stores north of the border, but local people having to cope with the small Presto supermarket in The Cut may well think differently.

For months now local people have become more and more fed up with the lack of service, the rudeness of staff and the lack of even the most basic foodstuffs in the store.

One local resident wrote an angry four-page letter to the company giving them a whole list of complaints. The Managing Director of Presto Foodstores responded by return of post admitting that there had been problems at the store and promising "a progressive improvement" in the coming weeks.

It will be interesting to see if they stick to their word. Meanwhile other local stores are benefitting from the complacency of Presto's. Most notable is the small Indian supermarket at the beginning of Lower Marsh which is clean, well laid out and carries a variety of food. The staff are also unfailingly courteous.

Somewhere in here is a moral for the staff and management at Argyll stores.

No to offices

Local residents from the Guinness Trust buildings off Snowfields turned out in force to the June meeting of Southwark Council's Area Planning Committee. They went to oppose a proposal to build an office block on their doorstep.

While they had severe reservations about the design of the building and the impact it would have on their homes, they focused their arguments against the principle of office development in this location. In doing so they highlighted a major

problem with the Council's 'Interim Planning Policies' which allow any office under 3,000 square metres to be built in North Southwark.

The proposed office block, at 74-90 Weston Street, is 2980 square metres in size, just below the Interim Planning Policy limit. There used to be houses on the site until the early 1960's and it has been vacant since 1971. In a mainly residential area, with flats like Guinness Trust, Tyers Estate and Lookyer Estate, local residents are keen to see the site used for something that will benefit the community.

The Interim Planning Policies have been in operation for nearly a year and are proving to offer a free for all for office developers. Local people warned Southwark that this would be the result of policies that contain little of the spirit of the old North Southwark Plan. The Plan forbade any further office development in North Southwark.

Southwark are currently reviewing their policies and are being pushed to the conclusion that they must at least have an area based approach to new office development. If they designate certain areas, such as London Bridge, where office development could take place, they could defend areas such as Weston Street from the speculators. Until designated areas are developed no office permissions should be allowed in other areas.

The Government's new Housing Bill is presently wending its way through Parliament. It is a highly controversial piece of legislation which is being altered almost daily by government Ministers leading to charges of 'legislating on the hoof'.

The main aim of the Bill is to put an end to Council housing in Great Britain. Private landlords, property companies and Housing Associations will be able to take over public housing, and with it their tenants.

The Bill therefore has

Hayle! Hayle! The Housing Bill's here!

Council tenants throughout the country are uniting in opposition against the Government's forthcoming Housing Bill. In SE1, meetings organised by both Liberal and Labour parties and Tenants Associations have been well attended and most tenants seem aware of the dangers of the Bill.

But on the Hayles Estate at Elephant & Castle the Residents Action Group Committee are continuing to invite possible new landlords to speak to tenants. In the April issue of SE1 we reported on their meeting with the property company, Quality Street. This company has now put in a bid to take over all the Council homes in Torbay, Devon.

Last month, the Hayles Residents' Committee invited Keniston Housing Association to speak to a tenants meeting. Liberal Councillor Rose Colley is on the management committee of Keniston Housing Association. She and her husband Graham own a house in Hayles Street and they are also both on the Hayles Residents' Committee.

About 40 people attended the tenants' meeting. It was left to Keniston Housing Association's Chief Executive, Neville Osborne, to explain the Housing Bill. But unfortunately he got one thing wrong. He told tenants they would retain their security of tenure if they transferred to Keniston.

This is incorrect. Existing Housing Association tenants will probably retain their security of tenure under the Housing Bill, but council tenants who transfer to a housing association or a private landlord will have to sign a new 'assured' tenancy agreement which has to be renegotiated every few years and is by no means as secure as a council tenancy.

This just highlights the danger of allowing people who are interested in taking over an estate to interpret the Housing Bill to tenants, especially when they are not up to date with the legislation.

Mr Osborne reckons that existing Hayles rents would probably be increased by 10% initially on transfer to Keniston Housing Association and thereafter in line with inflation. But Council leader and Chaucer Ward Councillor Anne Matthews, who was in the audience, queried this.

She explained that Council rents are subsidised by the rates to the tune of £12 a week and wondered how Keniston would be able to keep their rents down to the level suggested. And of course, rents for new tenancies under Keniston could be much higher, probably at market levels.

There was also some doubt about service charges. Keniston said they would supply annual accounts but gave no clear indication of what the charges might be. On repairs they had a system similar to the Council's, with three categories: 'emergency', 24 hours; 'urgent', 3 days; and 'normal', 4 weeks. For major repairs like re-roofing they would have to get special funding and this would inevitably mean delays.

They have 13 staff. 3 housing officers are each responsible for 200-300 properties.

Keniston did not give any guarantee that they would house people of Southwark Council's waiting list. Tenants at the meeting were particularly interested in succession rights and whether there would be a 'sons and daughters' allocation policy.

It might be understandable for Southwark Council tenants to consider a new landlord because they are currently getting such a poor deal from the Council. But apparently the Hayles Residents' Committee has another reason for approaching alternative landlords. Their Secretary, Brenda Crozier, recently told the magazine *Inside Housing*: "We have misfits here."

It seems that to be accepted on the Hayles Estate you have to meet the approval of the Residents' Committee!

enormous implications for all Council tenants in North Southwark and Waterloo. But private tenants and tenants of Charitable Housing Trusts shouldn't think they will be immune from the Bill. Another important aim of the Bill is to boost rents to 'market levels'. No

tenant can expect their rents not to double within the next few years.

Even before it has become law, the Housing Bill has made its impact felt on North Southwark. In the two articles below, SE1 explains how.

Peabody Trust tenants in SE1 are likely to face large rent increases soon. The Trust has applied for re-registration of rents on its 150 flats in Southwark Street.

The fair rent proposed for the one-bedroom flat of Mr Edward Storey, who has lived on the Southwark Street estate for over 40 years, will rise to £22 a week. Currently Mr Storey pays £15.05 a week. This represents a staggering 46% increase in Mr Storey's rent.

Naturally, Mr Storey is much concerned. On top of his rent he pays rates of £22.50 a month. Under the government's new rules for rent and rates rebates, Mr Storey will not qualify for rebates and so he will have to find the new rent increase out of his pension. The £7 a week rent increase will mean a considerable drop in Mr Storey's disposable income.

Mr Storey believes the rent increase is unjustified. George Peabody, he points out, started his Charitable Housing Trust to house working people at modest rents. Similar local charities, such as the Hopton Street cottages, Edward Edwards and United St Saviour's Charities whose homes are located in Norwood, all charge their tenants little or no rent at all. Mr Storey thinks it is high time that tenants were represented on the Board of Peabody Trust, now a multi-million pound estate.

In a circular the Trust sent to all tenants on its Southwark Street estate last month, it gave the following justification for increasing rents: "I am sure you are aware that in recent years, most people in London have had to pay much more for their housing, as a result of rising property prices and rents. The Trust has largely protected its tenants from these substantial increases, but it can no longer continue to do this to the same extent as in the past. The Trust is therefore applying to the Rent Officer for an increase

in rent, which is likely to be greater than in previous years."

This is no doubt a foretaste of things to come for all tenants who are presently paying fair rents. The Church Commissioners recently raised the rents of tenants in Winchester Park Estate in Union Street by an average 22%, well above the annual inflation rate of 4%. How can landlords running charitable housing trusts, meant to house those on low incomes, possibly justify such increases which are far in excess of increases in wages and income support levels for pensioners, single mothers and the unemployed?

The Government, through the Housing Bill, is trying by all means to undermine the present fair rent system in order to let the 'market' set rents. Deregulating rents, the government believes, will attract private landlords back into the housing market as the higher rents give them a good rate of return on their investments.

Under the Housing Bill, tenants of Charitable Housing Trusts will continue to have security of tenure. If, however, after the Bill becomes law, they transfer to another flat with the same landlord, they will then become 'assured tenants' with fewer rights and higher rents than at present.

According to the government a revival of the private rented sector will be the solution to the housing crisis in Great Britain. Readers can judge for themselves the wisdom or otherwise of this logic. In the meantime, tenants like Mr Storey will be the victims of the 'market' approach to setting rents by charitable housing trusts.

These organisations are in danger of forgetting that they were established to house those in need at affordable rents. Grabbing hold of the coat-tails of government housing policy is a one-way ticket in the opposite direction.

THE CHANGING FACE OF BERMONDSEY

INTRODUCTION

The Jacobs Island Development is one of the many developments which are currently "Changing the face of Bermondsey".

A 4th year English class at St Michaels School next to Jacobs Island have been investigating this change over the past two terms.

This project was initiated and prepared by Willowbrook Urban Studies Centre and the North Southwark Community Development Group.

These pages were written edited and designed by the pupils.

As 4th year pupils in St Michaels School we have been studying the changes in Bermondsey, past and present. This involved research on the local area and interviewing various people ranging from an old lady who has lived here all her life to an LDDC Planner. We wrote poems, prepared a local radio broadcast and finished up with a public inquiry with us playing the roles of the LDDC, Southwark Council, a local action group and the developers. The inquiry was held to decide whether a development at Jacobs Island should go ahead or not.

INTERVIEW WITH LOCAL OLD PERSON.

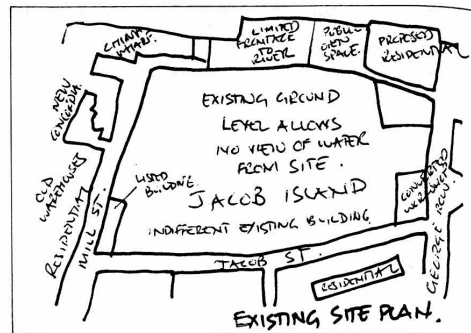
We interviewed a lady called Joan Beale. She's 62 years old and currently lives on the Neckinger Estate.

She was born in Bermondsey and has lived here all her life.

Mrs Beale did not have a chance to finish school due to the second world war breaking out. She did not really enjoy school because of the teachers. She thought that they were really strict and fierce looking. Since she was quite a "chatterbox" she was often made to stand in the corner or outside the door. Children were rarely hit with rulers.

Not surprisingly, being a Bermondsey person, Mrs Beale worked in factories. During the war she made flags. Her other jobs ranged from making scent, children's clothes and womens underwear.

Mrs Beale and one of her sons are all



that remain of her family in Bermondsey. Most of her relatives have moved out to the suburbs and some have emigrated. Even though Mrs Beale likes the area in which she lives, she does not feel totally safe. She was attacked in broad daylight some 4 years ago.

She still feels nervous and does not dare go out at night since she knows what could happen during the day.

Her views have made me think twice about what I think and say.

I thought this exercise was quite interesting. It has taught me how to talk to people I don't know as well as learning opinions and views of other people about the area in which I live.

FACTS ON JACOBS ISLAND PROJECT.

The Jacobs Island Site is 3.2 acres large and is situated on a prime site beside the River Thames. Currently it is being used by Film Studio's and other small businesses.

Plans were drawn up by a development company for a 21 storey development which would consist of:

416 residential units
5579 sqm of commercial floorspace
650 sqm of leisure floorspace
638 car spaces

This was submitted to the LDDC who turned it down so the company drew up a revised development of 12 storeys which was passed but they forced a public enquiry on the 21 storey which has yet to take place. So whatever the outcome there is to be a major redevelopment on the Jacobs Island Site.

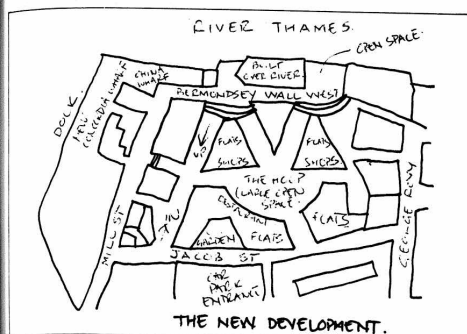
The local people or Southwark Council do not want either development. They want the land for local jobs and amenities but Southwark do not have authority on the land anymore - the LDDC do.

POEM - SOUTHSIDE

Very old buildings, estates and houses,
Plenty of dumps, with rats and mice,
Tramps hanging about, graffiti on doors,
Old women stuck up on the fifteenth floor
On the South side of the Thames.

Very few parks, rarely a flower,
Police spinning about at 90mph,
Kids in the street kicking a ball,
People going to see Millwall
On the South Side of the Thames.

Fighting in pubs, glasses in faces,
Burglars and pickpockets getting chases,
Granny's walking the streets full of fear,
Teenagers on street corners puffing



gear
On the South Side of the Thames.

Elliot Burt.

POEM - BERMONDSEY

The docks are gone forever dead
New Town Houses replace them instead
The style of abodes are modern and small
Times are changing never to recall

The Thames flows freely, never to cease
Dividing South from the east.
Bermondsey sits on one riverside
Traditions remain for how long with pride.

Nina Jacques

POEM - A STRANGER IN BERMONDSEY.

I stepped off the bus in Jamaica Road

Remembering all the early things I'd been told.
As I turned the corners one by one
I started saying "What have I done?"
All the faces I met seemed to stare
Did they really want me there?

I started thinking why not give it a chance?
Then again did I want that second glance.
These people could be quite all right
but could also give me quite a fright.
Should I stay or should I go?
To tell the truth I didn't know.

I looked again more clearly though
and thought to myself I'll give it a go.
The people seemed to change their tune
I realise now I shouldn't assume.
I suppose I must've looked a fool
I like this place after all.

Philomena Graham (Phil only came to Bermondsey for about 1/2 a term. It was the first time she had been here. This poem reflects her view.)

RADIO DOCKLANDS.

The class was split up into three groups and we had an hour to produce a radio broadcast. The broadcast covered topics such as the planned closure of Peakreans, an interview with a local person, a local round up, adverts and a news flash about a bomb being discovered locally. One group's broadcast mainly was about Peakreans being closed. They gave the history on the site like its been there since 1862 and that Nabisco who own it took it over 3 years ago to try and save it.

Also they gave views of workers because 900 of them are to lose their jobs and a high percentage of them are women.

The local news was about a girl called Rosa Ferraro who suffers from Cerebral Palsy and has been accepted into a institute in Budapest but the fee would cost £10,000 which has to be raised.

Finally the news flash was about a bomb which had been discovered in a building in Mill St police had sealed off the surrounding area and bomb disposal officers had been called.

The broadcasts lasted about 7 minutes and when we finished we had to comment on the work.

PUBLIC INQUIRY.

In our inquiry we split into four groups and played the role of the people involved in the real development. A group of developers, the Jacobs Island Company proposed to build a twenty-one storey apartment block on the Jacobs Island Site in Bermondsey. Due to local objections, the LDDC, who con-

trol planning permission were "forced" to scale down the building to twelve stories. However, the developers still persisted in trying to obtain permission for the 21 storey plan.

At the public inquiry in St Michaels school, after all the interested parties had presented their cases, the inspectors came to the conclusion that the twelve storey plan would go ahead.

Comments of "Jacobs Action Group"

We wanted more housing on the site to be allocated to local people, and we were disappointed with the decision that was made because there wasn't enough provision of housing and amenities. Also, the idea of extra traffic causing congestion and increasing danger for local children is annoying because the outcome of the developer's project would be of no benefit for local people.

Comments of "Southwark Council"

We were very angry with the decision because we could not prevent it from going ahead. We were the original elective body for the area and we were the people to distribute planning permission. We were stripped of that right when the LDDC were formed, and now, we have virtually no say at all of what happens.

Comments from "LDDC"

We were very satisfied with the result. It has upheld our authority. It will benefit all - the developers and local people. We have satisfied the governors that our original decision was the proper one.

Comments from the "Developers"

The developers were very disappointed with the end result. We are pleased though that the inspectors agreed with the twelve storey proposal. Change will come eventually.

CONCLUDING COMMENTS

We think that the docklands project was a reasonable insight into various events happening in and around our area. We feel that the whole exercise was worthwhile because it has made us aware of what is happening in our area and what people think about it. The Jacobs Island development of a 12 storey block of luxury flats/offices is in itself not a bad idea. We recognise that the area needs development but the needs views and interests of local people must be taken into consideration. Development without "real" consultation is unfair and can cause ill-feeling. At the end of our investigation we feel that the 12 storey development was the better proposal and the decision to go ahead was satisfactory.

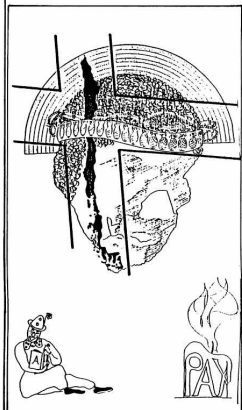


PENTECOST '88

Pentecost Sunday is sometimes thought of as the birthday of the Christian Church. It falls 50 days after Easter and celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Nowadays, many Christian organisations acknowledge the urgent need for groups of all kinds to work together for a just society, for a world not under nuclear threat, a world in which we care about the environment we live in.

In SE1, Pentecost '88 was largely organised by the Justice and Development Office of the Anglican Diocese of Southwark based at Christ Church North Brixton.



The event this year was held at St John's Church, Waterloo, and information stalls were to be seen on the church steps from a range of groups including Lambeth Amnesty International, Chile Committee for Human Rights, Goose Green Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, Christian Ecology and the Catholic Fund for Aid & Overseas Development.

Rosemary Lynch, an American Franciscan nun, spoke of her experiences at the atomic testing site in the Nevada desert; Terry Drummond from Church Action on Poverty led a discussion on poverty in Britain.

Meanwhile, the Holy Fools, a group of clowns who work with the church, swallowed fire, made paper crane birds, painted faces and brought laughter to the streets of Waterloo, as part of their contribution to Pentecost '88.

The afternoon concluded with a service celebrating and expressing concern for the oneness and suffering of the whole universe.

Jenny Hunt
Justice & Development Office

St Olave's redevelopment out to tender

Tenders have been received by Lewisham & North Southwark Health Authority from a number of developers interested in the exploitation of the 7-acre St Olave's Hospital site in Rotherhithe.

While details of the tender and the offers received have not been made public, it is known that in return for approximately half of the site the developer would build a number of facilities for the Health Authority on the remaining half of the site. These include a new Chaucer Day Hospital, a Domes for the elderly, a 10 place respite care centre for the elderly, and new facilities for the Physiotherapy Department and the Ambulance Service.

At a packed public meeting at

the end of January, local residents made it plain to the Health Authority that they were opposed to a private developer building luxury houses on the site. Nevertheless, the Health Authority went ahead and invited tenders and it is believed four have been short-listed.

One developer in the running is a Danish company called ISLEF which was approached by Simon Hughes MP. It is understood that this company has put together a package with Housing Associations to provide all the health facilities on site that the Health Authority wants together with fair-rent housing on the remainder of the site.

The short-listed developers

have been provided with further information by the Health Authority and final submissions must be made by the tenderers on 20th August. A decision on the choice of developer will be made public by the end of September.

In the meantime, a public meeting will be called soon to elect community delegates to a joint committee which will monitor progress of works on the site.

An attempt recently by the Health Authority to co-opt several local residents onto such a Committee was rejected. This was criticised by local health campaigners. Lil Patrick as a continuation of the high-handed methods adopted by the Health Authority over the whole St Olave's Hospital saga.

VICTIMS HELP LINE

Being physically assaulted is a frightening experience, especially for a woman. An advice worker in Waterloo describes her experience of two such attacks and how she was helped.

As a woman who has now been physically assaulted twice in two years I know the type of trauma people who have experienced attacks go through. Fear, anger, self doubt, loss of confidence are just some of the things I felt.

After the first attack there was the uncontrollable shaking, the loss of speech for 24 hours followed by an appalling stammer which lasted 2 months. My work was badly affected as was my home life and I found myself reacting to the smallest noise. Although the effects were extreme for me I wondered what my assailant was going through. Was he shaking or stammering? Was he afraid to go out? I doubted it.

The attack did not happen in a badly lit, deserted road; it happened in a West End cinema at the end of a film. Nearly 1,000 people heard my screams but no one wanted to get involved, except for a young woman who tried to pull me clear of my attacker's kicks. It took four officers to restrain the man who was 6'4" tall; I am 5'.

The biggest shock was when I was told by the police that 'there was nothing they could do'. They called it a common assault and said I would have to bring a private prosecution. One officer did tell me that they do act if the victim is a 'someone'!

Last month I was attacked in my office. I was verbally abused and punched in the face. It would have been far worse if not for the swift

action of my colleague. The police were called and an officer arrived 40 minutes later. I was shaking and my face hurt like hell and then I heard those words again 'common assault and nothing we can do.'

He did advise us to take out an injunction restraining the person from entering the building which we did. We contacted a Solicitor and went to County Court, where we had made an appointment to see the Judge at 1.45pm. We were kept waiting outside the court until 5pm when he deigned to see us!

In both incidents the system failed miserably and I was turned from victim to 'no one' in a short space of time. Again it is me that is left with the trauma, the sleepless nights, the 'jumping' at the slightest noise and now having to work in a fortified office.

The system does not work for the victim, but I did get support, understanding and advice from a group who run the 'Victims Help Line'. It doesn't matter what the crime was or how long ago it happened; if you were a victim and need support ring them on 729 1252.

They offer both long and short term telephone and face to face counselling, practical advice and if necessary, referral to a specialist agency. So if you need to talk to someone, in complete confidence, who will be sympathetic, understanding and supportive to you as a 'victim', ring them. They helped me and they could help you.

Mayoress marries

The sun shone just in time on Saturday 18th June for the wedding of Southwark's Mayoress, Debra Sergeant, who married David Lawless at St George the Martyr, Borough High Street.

Debra's mother, Southwark's Mayor, Rita Sergeant, wore a smart cream and turquoise suit with a cream hat. The tiny bridesmaid and pageboy looked cute in complementary blue and white outfits.

Debra alighted from a gold Rolls Royce in a stunning white satin puff-sleeved dress with a half veil carrying a blue and white bouquet. The young couple did not go away on a honeymoon because they are sensibly saving for their new home. SE1 wishes them every happiness for the future.

Playtime

Summer holidays will be with us soon and the local 'Upstream Children's Theatre Company' will be touring local venues with Sue Mayo's play 'The Island'.

The play is set on a small island which is occupied by Lady, a friendly islander. Then one day a stranger comes to the island, Marta, who is an explorer. When the stranger turns into a friend even the island is surprised.

The play will also be showing at The Upstream Children's Theatre, St Andrew's, Short Street, SE1 on Saturday 13th, 20th and 27th August. For details of this and the tour please contact Sue or Roy on 928 5394.

COIN ST NEWS



1. PIECES
Tel: 401 2335
Graham Bacon
Carpet workshop—imports, mends and cleans handmade rugs and kelims.

2. DIVINE LIGHTS
Tel: 806 2795
Catherine MacKay Purves
Sculptured and enamelled lights.
MAC PRODUCTS
Tel: 739 7909
Marice Cumber
Bone china decorators. Plates, jugs, bowls, vases, dinner services.
Both will make to order.

3. INDIGO
Tel: 401 2597
Richard Lightbown & Marion Bender
Import and repair Indian antiques and handicrafts.

5. NICK KELLETT
Tel: 401 2163
Jeweller in platinum, silver and gold.
Commissions undertaken.

6. DAVID ASHTON
Tel: 401 2405
Jewellery and precious metal work.

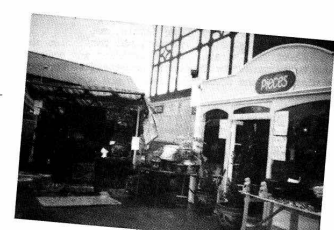
7. IMMATERIAL
Becca and Froly Shooter
Make original handpainted textiles for duvets, cushions etc.

8. TREAT YOUR FEET
Tel: 401 2430
Peter Davidson
Makes shoes, belts, bags, wallets.
Other commissions and some mending.

9. THREE FINE JEWELLERS
Tel: 401 2174
Karen Gledhill, Imtraud Chalek, Rae Duncan
Simple classical designs and special one-off pieces.

11. NOAH'S ARK
Friedal
Chisels rough-hewn animals.

12. PERFORMANCE
Tel: 401 2487
Tracy and Steve
Milliners: original and unique hats in felt and straw.



GABRIEL WHARF MARKET WORKSHOPS



Most of the units are now open Tues-Sun 11-5pm. They are an unusually varied community of working craftspeople, young and enthusiastic. You can watch them working, and the prices are good value. They will make things to order, including mending and cleaning.

ARCADE

Difficulties with the electrical supply delayed the opening of the public arcade through Stamford Wharf. It is now expected to open by the end of the month.

FESTIVAL OF NEW CIRCUS

As part of this festival during the first two weeks of August you can LEARN TO JUGGLE ON FRIDAYS in Gabriel's Wharf. Contact Rachel 485 4457 for details. Look out for events all along the South Bank from 30 July—14 August.

Mulberry Co-op Shared Garden



COMMUNITY AND SPORTS CENTRE

HELP BRING BACK LIFE TO THE INNER CITY!

The Colombo Street Community and Sports Centre has developed over the past twelve years to meet social needs as a result of the hard work and commitment of local people in North Lambeth and North Southwark. The Centre is based in a large converted building on the South Bank of the Thames, which now offers multipurpose meeting space and support for a wide range of community groups, including: children and young people, mothers & toddlers and Senior Citizens, and provides first class recreational facilities such as badminton, yoga, over 50's activities, karate, weight training and basketball, play schemes and youth activities. The Centre is committed to further developing activities for the disabled, the unemployed, women and young girls and the minority ethnic communities.

This well established and thriving community resource is now looking for applicants to fill the following posts:

A Centre Manager - Salary S01 Pts. 29-31, £11,322 - £12,075 + Inner London Weighting (£1,500)

Responsible to the Management Committee for the overall operational management of the Centre and policies to develop new activities to meet the needs and interests of local people. Experience of community projects and/or recreational management will be essential to this post.

Assistant Centre Manager (Administration) - Salary Scale 6 Pts 26-28, £10,191-£10,887 + Inner London Weighting (£1,500)

To support the Manager in the day to day running of the Centre and its various community and recreational activities, taking particular responsibility for finance and administration at the Centre.

For job description and application form, write to Fred Beale, Secretary, Colombo Street Community and Sports Centre, Colombo Street, London SE1 8DP.

Closing Date: 22.7.1988

N.B.: Colombo Street is committed to being an equal opportunity employer and to combating both racism and sexism. Applications will be considered irrespective of race, colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin, sex, marital status, religion, disability or sexual orientation.

These posts are funded by the London Boroughs of Lambeth and Southwark.

Registered as a Company Limited by Guarantee Number 1933656 Registered as a Charity Number 292623

COLOMBO STREET, LONDON SE1 8DP. TELEPHONE: 01-261 1658



COMMUNITY AND SPORTS CENTRE

COLOMBO STREET, LONDON SE1 8DP. TELEPHONE: 01-261 1658

SUMMER SPORT & LEISURE AT YOUR LOCAL
COMMUNITY & SPORTS CENTRE

MAINLY FOR UNDER 12s

Monday - Roller Skating 5.00pm - 7.00 pm under 12s

Tuesday - Recreational Games 6.00pm-6.45pm under 12s

Thursday - Recreational Games 6.30pm-8.00pm under 12s
Gymnastics 6.15pm-7.30pm Under 16s

All activities 15p members 55p non-members

COLOMBO STREET WILL BE RUNNING A SUMMER PLAYScheme
STARTING ON MONDAY, JULY 25TH.

ALL SORTS OF ACTIVITIES BOTH SPORTING AND OTHERWISE.

PLEASE CALL IN TO THE CENTRE FOR A LEAFLET (AVAILABLE
FROM 15 JULY 1988).

ACTIVITIES FOR WOMEN ONLY

Womens Morning of Sport - Tuesday & Friday 10am-12 noon.
Keep-Fit, Badminton, Netball, Multi-Gym etc. Informal,
friendly sessions, with free creche for under 5's.

Ladies Keep-Fit Monday 12 noon - 1.30 pm

Light exercises and movement to music.

COST: £1.50 PER SESSION.*

Womens Keep-Fit & Exercises - Monday 7.00pm-8.30 pm
A mixture of light exercises, weights etc., to get and
stay fit. COST: £1.50 PER SESSION.*

KARATE

Tuesday and Thursday 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm

Shotokan Karate with instructor Milton Johnson (1st Dan)
COST: £1.50 PER SESSION.*

Friday 7pm - 8pm Advanced Shotokan Karate - ALL WELCOME

COST: £2.00 PER SESSION.*

* PLUS 40p
NEW MEMBERS
ADMISSION

STONESEND DAY CENTRE SUMMER BAZAAR

Saturday 16th July

1.00 - 4.00pm

Scovell Road, SE1

Stalls, original
handcrafts, plants
grand raffle
and much more
Free entry

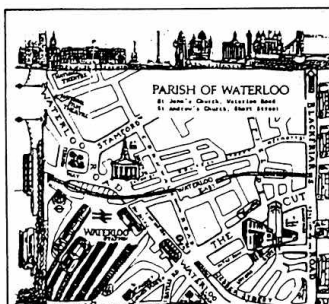
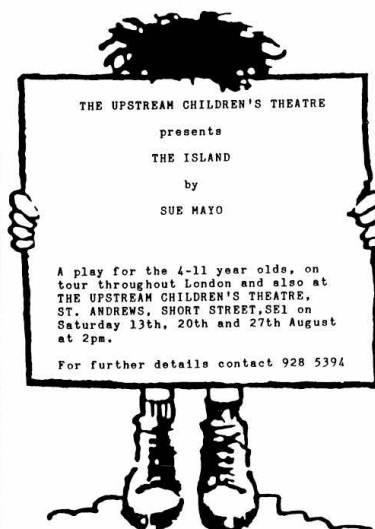
BERMONDSEY NEWS

Bermondsey's Paper

All the local news
20p from your newsagent
Every other Thursday

Tel. 232 1639/237 1578

* * * * *



The Parish of Waterloo
is the
Church of England
in the
Waterloo area.

All are welcome to any
of our activities

Parish office:
Tel - 633 9819

* * * * *

SE1

SE1 newspaper is produced for residents of Waterloo and Nth Southwark by people living & working locally. We welcome your letters, news, photos or other contributions. SE1 particularly welcomes contributions from the area's ethnic communities.

NEXT COPY DATE

Copy date for the next issue of SE1 is Wed 24th August. Publication date is 1st September. All contributions should be sent to 56 Southwark Bridge Road, SE1 OAS.

SE1 AVAILABLE AT

If you want to receive your copy of SE1 regularly, it is available from the Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Rd, or from the Borough Community Centre at 56 Southwark Bridge Road.

ADVERTISING IN SE1

SE1 newspaper is run on a tight budget. Sometimes it is necessary to produce a 6 page issue to cut our costs. We are entirely financed by advertisements. If you would like to advertise your activities, events, organisation, jumble sales, products, services or whatever, you will find our rates very reasonable. To find out more about advertising in SE1 telephone Gerry on 928 0711.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriber rates to SE1 newspaper are £5 a year for individuals and £12 for institutions. Cheques should be made payable to 'SE1 newspaper' and sent to 56 Southwark Bridge Road, SE1 OAS. We publish ten times a year with double issues during the summer and at Christmas.

BLACKFRIARS PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT

Blackfriars Photography Project are running a series of photography workshops for women of Afro-Caribbean, Asian and other ethnic minorities living and/or working in South London.

No experience or previous training is necessary to take part. The workshop and materials are free and a creche is provided, but must be booked in advance.

For further information speak to Brenda Agard or Dave Lewis on 237 9312. Blackfriars Photography Project is located at Beormund Community Centre, 177 Abbey Street, SE1.