

# SEI

A Free Community Newspaper

## More service cuts to balance Health Authority books

An order to West Lambeth Health Authority to balance its books by 31st March next year has raised fears that cuts of £12 million could be in store for the area's health services in the coming months.

The cash-strapped health authority has lurched from one financial crisis to the next over the past decade and as a consequence more than 200 beds have been closed at St Thomas' Hospital since 1983.

In the next round of cuts, Melissa Dillon, a union representative at St Thomas' Hospital, told a public meeting at Waterloo Action Centre last month that 60 more beds at the hospital could close, including two general surgery wards. In addition, 300 health authority workers, some 10% of the Health Authority's 3,000 employees, could be out of a job.

Already, Melissa Dillon said, hospital managers at St Thomas' have been told to cut patient admissions by 4,000 a year and reduce outpatient clinics by 10% which would mean 35,000 less outpatients treated a year.

The Family Planning Clinic at Barley Mow Health Clinic has already closed, as has the Asian Health Advocacy Service at the Moffat Clinic in Kennington, while Waterloo Community Counselling Project is threatened with closure.

Speaking at the same meeting, Dr Finbarr Martin, a consultant geriatrician at St Thomas', described the effects of the cuts on services on the elderly. In the past 18 months, 10% of beds for the elderly at St Thomas' specialist geriatric ward have been cut and the Geriatric Day Unit at South Western Hospital in Clapham had been closed. This was a specialist centre for the elderly which was especially valuable for residents of

North Lambeth. Its closure had been greatly regretted said Dr Martin.

Elderly patients had also been affected by cuts in acute services and a proposal on the table at present suggests that a further one in three elderly acute beds at St Thomas' should close. This would mean that 30-50 elderly people a month would be denied admission to these specialist beds. In reality, said Dr Martin, these patients would end up on other acute wards where care would be less effective and resources therefore less efficiently used.

Complicating the issue of cuts are the government's impending changes to the health service. Ballots of workers and consultants at St Thomas' and local GP's have shown a clear majority opposed to 'opting-out'. With the strong backing of the Health Authority's management, however, the hospital looks set to become a 'self-governing trust'.

According to Dr Stephen Jenkins, District General Manager of West Lambeth Health Authority, this is not an issue which should concern anyone. St Thomas' would remain part of the health service, he told the meeting, and GP's would still be able to refer their patients to any hospital in the country. In his opinion, the main advantage of the new legislation would be "an enormous cut in bureaucracy" to allow more time to be devoted to health care.

Dr Harborough, a GP practising at Munro House in Frazier Street, said however, that it was already difficult to get sick people into both St Thomas' and Guy's. Orthopedics patients, he said, can wait up to a year merely for an appointment at Outpatients and then wait an indefinite time for an operation such as a hip replacement. Under the 'opting-out' arrangements he feared that GP's would feel obliged to refer patients to whichever hospital offered

the cheapest services to the local Health Authority. This would mean patients travelling out of the area for treatment.

Local residents at the meeting felt angry that their concerns were not being addressed by the Health Authority management. The changes to the health service will make management even less accountable say members of Waterloo Health Project, who organised the meeting.

In September, West Lambeth Health Authority met for the last time as an elected body. The next meeting will consist of government appointees paid up to £5,000 a year for attending a handful of meetings. There will be no community representatives on the Health Authority and meetings will be closed to the public.

Less democracy in the health service, critics of the government's plans fear, will also coincide with worsening services for patients.



Residents and users - anxious about the future of the health service

## Bunny stuffers axed in social services cuts

The Borough of Southwark has a wonderful service for its elderly and disabled residents. There are 12 day centres each providing for between 40 and 100 members a day. Here, people enjoy company, a good meal and help with their problems and, up until the end of September, the chance to take part in activities specially tailored to their interests and abilities.

A team of workers is employed to run group activities such as cookery sessions, quizzes and games and to teach mixed crafts. This team of Handicraft Instructors has become known as 'The Bunny Stuffers'.

Where else would an elderly disabled person find the opportunity to try their hand at weaving, batik, plant propagation, Easter egg making, pickling onions, Trivial Pursuit, or making a video? These are all the activities that go on in Southwark day centres and more!

The Southwark Social Services Handicraft Instructor is as concerned with the social benefits of the class as s/he is with the quality of the craftwork produced. The atmosphere of a craft session is supportive and non-competitive.

Some people like to feel part of the work force, and work flat out, producing for sale at the next bazaar, while others indulge long held ambitions to become painters or make that patchwork quilt for the grandchildren.

Now, all these activities will come to an end, because

at the end of September, the Handicraft Section of Southwark Social Services was abolished, with staff in day centres being cut by one third. At Stonesend Day Centre, one of the users, Anne, said: 'I just cannot think what we'll do. My husband loves coming, he usually does a lot of painting and sketching which we put up on the walls. I think he'll be at a loss, absolutely at a loss.'

Nell, who has been coming to the centre for about nine years, described the way she works: 'I like making toys. I have to have them pinned up for me, then I have to have the material weighed down so I can sew it. I've made an elephant, a seal, teddy bears. It passes the time away and we can all have a little chat between us. I shall be miserable when the craft lessons end. I don't think I shall be able to make anything anymore.'

It would not be an exaggeration to say that belonging to a day centre is like belonging to a family. Bonds are built between people working together in the craft groups. For those who have no family, or who seldom see their relatives, this sense of camaraderie is essential to their well-being.

Doug, who is a very energetic and adventurous craft worker, comes to Stonesend three times a week and goes to Tooley Street workshop, which is also closing, on a Thursday. He has tried using a knitting machine, making garden gnomes and bird houses. He will be bored with nothing to do, he says: 'It



Handicrafts session at Stonesend Day Centre

keeps you occupied and then you don't think of things that are wrong and again, it comes to combatting depression. You've got the satisfaction of knowing that you've done something and especially in the case where it's a basket, a tray, a stool, they're all going to be useful. I'd like the Councillors to provide some way that we can do crafts, even if we had to manage with a part-time teacher.'

Another fact to consider is the staff/member ration after these cuts. One of the welfare assistants at Stonesend Day Centre spoke of some of the problems she foresees: 'Over the course of a week, we have 110 members coming in. There will be times when only one permanent member of staff will be on duty. Then we'll rely on agency staff. There are clients who are permanently wheelchair bound which means

that you have to lift them manually in the toilet, or even to sit them up. There are some people who can only be moved with two of you, so if you're left shorthanded, you have a problem. On outings we will have to think twice about who we take in future. We won't be able to take so many severely disabled people out on any one day.'

The abolition of Southwark Social Services Handicraft Section is just one of a battery of cost cutting measures hitting pensioners on all fronts. Ultimately, social services should be about taking care of individual human beings; all the meetings and memos with fancy new logos are just so much hot air to the lonely pensioner.

Contributed by Jenny Morgan, a former Handicraft Worker at Stonesend Day Centre

## Dancing Days

The Westminster School of Dancing is holding classes at the Borough Community Centre. The School's Principal, Michele Tetzlaff, who has wide teaching experience, will lead the classes.

There are two classes, classical ballet and modern theatre dance, both leading to exam entrance. Times of classes are Mondays, 4-4.45pm for ballet and 4.45-5.30pm for modern theatre dance.

Classes are open to children between the ages of 5 and 11 years (both sexes), and are due to start on Monday 5th November. The cost is £2.50 per class. For enquiries and enrolment contact Michelle Tetzlaff on 828 0651, between 9-10am, or Ruth Ford at the Borough Community Centre, 56 Southwark Bridge Road, tel. 928 6476.

**SAVE**  
The Young Vic  
**CAMPAIGN**

## Festival to save The Young Vic

In July, the Young Vic theatre in The Cut was threatened with closure and the entire staff given redundancy notices. The building, which was originally built to last five years, was in urgent need of repairs without which the Young Vic's theatre licence would not be renewed.

In August, the 'Save the Young Vic Campaign' was launched with the aim of raising the £350,000 needed to safeguard the theatre's future. Within three weeks, £100,000 was donated, redundancy notices were withdrawn and essential building and maintenance work started.

Now, the Young Vic are taking the campaign to raise funds a step further with a 'Save the Young Vic Festival' aimed at raising the balance of the money needed to carry on as one of London's most appreciated theatres. The Festival is an eight day celebration which starts with a huge street carnival in The Cut on Sunday 28th October and leads into a week of one-off performances, revivals, workshops, master-classes, and entertainment for the under-11's. The Festival will culminate on Sunday 4th November with a celebrity Gala.

The full programme of the Festival will be available at

## New proposals for viaduct widening

Further details of the current proposals for widening the railway viaduct across the Borough Market have been made available to SE1 newspaper. The plans show the probable extent of property demolition in the Borough High Street Outstanding Conservation Area should the scheme go ahead.

Readers will recall that British Rail wants to build a new twin-track viaduct from London Bridge Station to O'Meara Street in order to run ten Thameslink trains an hour during peak times through London Bridge to southern destinations. Thameslink is London's only north-south cross rail link. It has become a very popular service and its expansion is presently hampered because there is no spare track capacity in central London.

The new viaduct would extend over the forecourt and concourse of London Bridge Station and then across Railway Approach, supported on columns. Railway Approach

would be converted afterwards to pedestrian access only.

A new bridge would be built over Borough High Street. This would require the demolition of 11 Borough High Street and the probable demolition of Nos 13 and 15. This is the group of buildings on the junction of London Bridge Street, next door to the post office.

On the west side of Borough High Street, the new viaduct would cross the Borough Market and be supported on columns. The Globe Pub would be affected, though not necessarily demolished, and the Market would lose part of its roof. In this area, properties which would be demolished include Nos 4 and 5 Bedale Street, Nos 16-24 Borough High Street and the properties which back onto them in Green Dragon Court. No 26 Borough High Street may also be demolished as well as No 7 Bedale Street.

From Stoney Street to Southwark Street, the

existing viaduct will be widened by adding new columns and deck alongside the existing one. This will mean the demolition of Nos 6-8 Stoney Street, including the Wheatsheaf Pub. The rear of Nos 1-13 Park Street will also be affected, requiring, in some cases, the demolition of kitchens and roof gardens. The reconstruction of the bridge over Southwark Street will see the demolition of Nos 25-31 Southwark Street.

The proposal to construct the new viaduct will be submitted to Parliament for approval, probably in November 1991. In the meantime, British Rail has appointed consultants to examine the environmental implications of the construction and operation of the viaduct for the local community. 'Save the Borough Market Area Campaign', which opposes the viaduct widening, would be interested to hear readers' opinions on the possible impact of the scheme on the community. For further information contact Gerry on 928 0711.

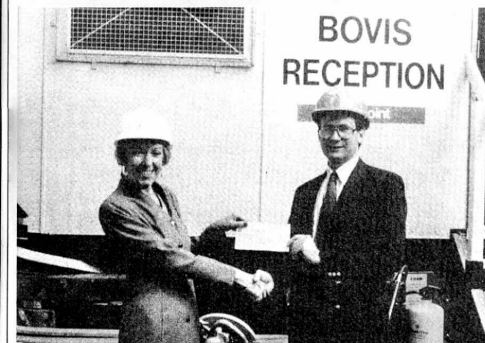
## Bishop of Southwark to retire

The Bishop of Southwark, the Rt Rev Ronald Bowly, has announced that he will retire in August next year at the age of 65 after 11 years in the post. The Diocese of Southwark, over which the Bishop presides, covers a large area extending from the south bank of the Thames to Gatwick Airport.

In addition to his diocesan work, Bishop Bowly has taken a particular interest in housing and social issues and has been a sharp critic of government policy in these fields. The Bishop is currently president of the National Federation of Housing Associations among other voluntary interests.

## Bovis helps clean up Bankside

Bovis Construction Limited, which is fitting out the office block on Red Lion Court, Park Street, for eventual use by Lloyds Bank, has donated £900 to Southwark Heritage Association to assist that organisation's efforts to tidy up the Bankside area. The money will go towards employing a part-time cleaner on Bankside which in the past several years has been suffering from neglect.



Tim Atkinson of Bovis presents Heather Pickering of Southwark Heritage Association with a cheque for £900.

## Upstream weighs anchor

For the last twelve years, many readers will have known St Andrew's church in Waterloo as the home of South London's most popular children's theatre company.

Upstream Children's Theatre has been based at the church since 1978. Since then it has been providing drama and theatre workshops and plays exclusively for young people between the ages of three and twelve years old, both in their purpose-built studio theatre and within the south London community at large.

Last month, however, Upstream left St Andrew's. Rosemary Poole, Artistic Director since 1982, explained that 'our lease with the church has expired and there are plans to convert the building for a completely different usage. Although it is sad to leave, the move is actually a very positive one for us to make at this time. It will give us a valuable opportunity to re-focus our work, analyse our achievements over the last twelve years, and planning even greater projects for the future.'

The company will be relocating temporarily downstream to East London. In the meantime, Rosemary and Ola Animashawun, the Projects Director, will be scouring the streets of Southwark and Lambeth as they endeavour to secure a more permanent site, in either of the two boroughs.

They are looking for a property large enough to accommodate the extensive range of costumes and props which the company has, together with enough room to recommence the very popular Saturday and half-term holiday workshops and 'plays in a day'.

The company is keen to maintain the long association it has built up with the local community in the past, so if there is anyone who may be able to assist in the search for a site, or who would simply like to be on the company's mailing list, get in touch with Rosemary or Ola on 071 739 2494.



She also helped counsel many local unemployed people, those with problems at their workplaces and those wishing to set themselves up in business, as well as creating a work placement at the National Theatre and a fund to train local people.

Despite funding difficulties with Lambeth Council, Waterloo Employment Project has survived and on 15th August over 30 local residents gathered at Waterloo Action Centre to thank Steph for all her work for the community. Judging by the speeches and the pile of presents, Steph will be genuinely missed by a lot of people in the community.



## BERMONDSEY HEALTH CENTRE

The Bermondsey Health Centre, in Grange Road, will be more familiarly known to several generations of Bermondsey residents as the 'Solarium'.

It opened its doors again to the public at the end of July after being closed for two years for refurbishment. It is now the main health centre for the Bermondsey and North West Southwark area. One of the consequences of its re-opening was the closure of St George's Health Centre in Blackfriars Road since the Health Authority cannot afford the luxury of running two health centres in this area.

Because of the squeeze on health service funds, some of the refurbishment costs of the Solarium were offset by converting the back part of the centre into twenty flats in a development done by a Housing Association. These will be sold to health service staff.

The Solarium is a very well known local landmark and first opened as a health centre in 1936. It was known as the Solarium because one of its main functions was to provide sunlight treatment to sufferers of TB.

The Solarium owed much of its inspiration to Dr Alfred Salter who graduated as a doctor from Guy's Hospital and dedicated his life and work to the poor of Bermondsey from 1900 until his death in 1945. He helped make Bermondsey one of the most progressive areas in the country for slum clearance, rehousing and public health. He laid the foundations of a health centre which came to serve as a model for the rest of the country.

Bermondsey Borough Council, as it then was, was regarded as one of the pioneers in the development of public health services. The Solarium, which was the country's biggest municipal health centre and considered one of the best of its kind in Europe, had the most up-to-date methods for the treatment of tuberculosis, rheumatism, and arthritis.

In addition, there was maternity and child welfare provision, dental surgeries, chiropody, ante-natal and gynaecology clinics, all under one roof.

The Bermondsey Health Centre is run by the Priority Care Unit of the Lewisham & North Southwark Health Authority. The Health Authority is responsible for the planning, management and development of health service provision for the whole of the borough of Lewisham and the North Southwark area. This includes running Guy's and Lewisham Hospitals.

As part of its health duties, the Health Authority pays particular attention to the needs of children, the elderly, and particularly the housebound elderly, and people with mental illnesses and learning difficulties. Within the Health Authority, all of these services come under the control of the Priority Care Unit.

Community Health Services is one of the three main areas of responsibility of the Priority Care Unit. It is divided into ten local 'patches' in Lewisham & North Southwark, with three patches covering the North Southwark area, Bermondsey, Aylesbury and Surrey Docks.

The purpose of locally managed community health services, according to the Bermondsey patch administrator, Louise Upton, who is based at Bermondsey Health Centre, is to be more in touch with the local community and therefore more responsive to health needs in the area.

The Community Health Services also work closely with the local council and with voluntary organisations concerned with providing health services.

The main health services which come under the direct management of the patches are district nursing, health visiting and school nursing. District nursing provides skilled nursing care, from basic care to the most complex, to people in their own homes under referral from hospitals, GPs and council social services. Health visitors provide a home visiting service advising on all aspects of child care for children from 0-5 years.

School nurses are trained nurses who advise teachers and parents on health care, undertake periodic health reviews, and checks on hearing, vision, weight and height.

There are a number of other services which are provided to the patches, and take place in health centres, for example, but are not managed by them. These services include chiropody, family planning, well women clinics, and children's dental services.

The Bermondsey patch covers the area from the borough boundary with Waterloo,

Bermondsey and down to the Elephant & Castle, with a population of 32,000 people. One of the main problems for the health services is encouraging the use of these services. Over 65's make up around 17% of the patch population and often the elderly are unaware what services are available.

The use of ante-natal, child immunisation and screening programmes in the patch could also be a lot higher. For instance, it is estimated that only 73% of children in the Bermondsey patch have been immunised against measles though it is hoped to increase this rate to 90% in the coming year.

Bermondsey Health Centre itself caters for all age groups. Already a clinic timetable has been established and further services are gradually being added. There are two child health clinics a week, which anyone may attend, on Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 1.30-4.30, with the attendance of clinical medical officers. Chiropody services are held all day, Monday to Friday. Family planning clinics are held on Monday and Tuesday mornings and Wednesday evenings. A well woman clinic takes place of a Thursday evening.

There are two GP's located at the Solarium, Dr Max Gammon and Dr Jane Fryer, who previously practised at Reverdy Road. They hold sessions every day and accept new patients.

For further details of clinics and other information, telephone Bermondsey Health Centre on 231 9031.



District nurses at the Health Centre



Bermondsey Health Centre

## BERMONDSEY VILLAGE HALL

Bermondsey Village Hall is a purpose-built community centre, next door to Leathermarket Gardens. Since it first opened in 1986 it has had mixed fortunes, but with the recent appointment of a new community worker, Andrew Richardson, the centre's management committee of local residents is determined to make it a success.

Andrew, who comes from Sheffield, where for ten years he was involved with community organisations in an area similar to Bermondsey, brings experience and enthusiasm to the job. He started in his post in July.

While Andrew is pleased about Southwark Council's commitment to Bermondsey Village Hall, he believes that considerable extra resources are needed to develop and sustain the activities of the centre. Some income can be raised by letting the hall to commercial users, but Richard Wallace, who is Chair of the management committee, says this must be secondary to community uses.

The main activities which Andrew is keen to build up at the moment are the Mums & Toddlers Group, the Senior

Youth Club and the Over 60's PM Club. The mums and toddlers is a self-run group which meets at Bermondsey Village Hall on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2.30-4.30pm. It is well attended and, says Andrew, "a nicer mixture of people you will never find."

The over 60's PM club, which is still in its infancy so to speak, meets on a Wednesday afternoon at 2pm for recreational activities, tea and a chat. The senior youth club is run by Richard Wallace and his wife Helene, and meets on Wednesday evenings. Andrew has also taken several groups of children and young people on day trips out of London. For a number of them, it was the first time they had left Bermondsey. Others who use the hall are a church group, which meets on Sundays and a Somali group.

One of the priorities of the management committee is to clean up the open space around the hall. This was originally laid out and maintained by a local environmental project team, but since their grant ran out several years ago, maintenance has been very irregular. One of their first steps in this direction was



Mum and toddlers at Bermondsey Village Hall

getting the council to install bottle banks. These are located in the car park attached to Bermondsey Village Hall at the end of Kirby Grove.

Andrew and the management committee are particularly keen to provide activities and resources for children, in an area where there are few play spaces. There are plans for a junior youth club in the winter or spring and the centre is looking for a dance teacher who might be

interested in putting on classes there.

Bermondsey Village Hall is available for letting to local groups, and has disabled access and toilet facilities as well as a small kitchen. For details and further information about activities at the centre for residents, call Andrew Richardson on 403 3530 or pop in there during the day. Bermondsey Village Hall is at the bottom of Kirby Grove, off Snowfields.

## A brighter Borough Cafe

The Borough Cafe, situated in Park Street close to the Borough Market closed for one week in August. Something that hasn't happened in the thirty years the Moruzzi family have lived and worked at the Cafe.

The closure was for a total refurbishment of the interior - transforming it from a dark and sober environment to that of a modern bright and welcoming design. The builders worked solidly for seven days (and nights) to ensure that it would be completed on time.

Customers will be pleased to note that the menu has not changed but there is now a larger selection of salads available. Also the prices have not gone up.



Mrs Moruzzi at the Borough Cafe



With the arrival of October there will be marked change in weather conditions - even if it remains mild the shortening days will herald the Autumnal mists and the onset of falling leaves.

If you have been able to put your houseplants outdoors for the summer it would be wise to bring them inside before the first frosts and prolonged cold spells.

Geraniums (Pelargoniums) may well survive a mild winter outside but now is a good time to take some cuttings, whilst preparing the plants for overwintering inside, if you so choose. Trim of the top growth (and reserve for your cuttings) gently pull the plant out of the soil and shake off the excess soil - plant up in pots which will just hold the roots, then fill with peat. Store in a cool, dry, well lit room and water very occasionally - just

enough to stop the leaves from wilting.

Trim your cuttings and allow three or four leaves to remain, place in a glass container of water and leave on a windowsill - they should root fairly quickly.

Summer bedding plants, the temporary varieties such as Marguerites, Salvias and Begonias should now be cleared and the Spring flowering occupants planted out - Wallflowers, Polyanthus and Primroses, there is still time to plant bulbs such as Tulips and Hyacinths.

There are many plants which bloom in October, the Sedums (icoplant) Michaelmas daisy, Phlox and Viola. However from now on it will be the evergreen trees, shrubs (many of which produce berries) and Heathers which will give the colour in the garden.

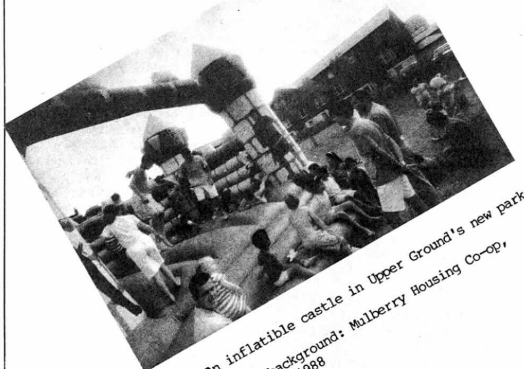
# COIN STREET



Postman Pat



Local MP's Kate Hoey and Simon Hughes at the Festival

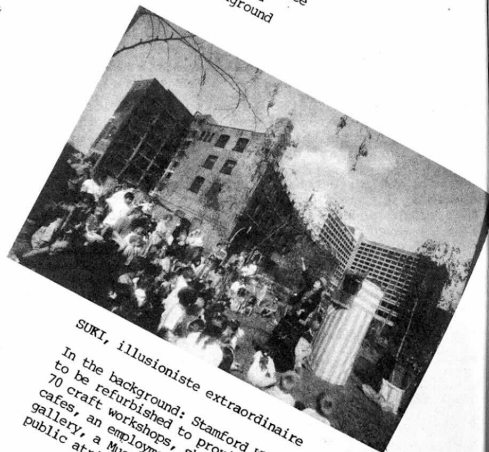


An inflatable castle in Upper Ground's new park opened in 1988

# FESTIVAL '90



African drum workshops and performances by the Sons of African Chief. Naughty took place in the new Riverside park with Stamford Wharf and the OXO tower in the background



SUKI, illusioniste extraordinaire  
In the background: Stamford Wharf which is to be refurbished to provide 78 co-op flats, 70 craft workshops, shops, restaurants and cafes, an employment training project, a gallery, a Museum about the Thames, and a public atrium with daily events

## Jubilee Gardens threat takes turn for worse

The long-running threat to Jubilee Gardens took a turn for the worse recently when London Underground refused to accept pleas from the local community to move their worksite for the extension to the Jubilee Line from Jubilee Gardens. The play equipment in the Gardens will be removed although London Underground has said it will be moved to a new location.

The Queen's Walk Park Society, which is campaigning to save Jubilee Gardens, has condemned the proposal to move the play equipment and say that London Underground knows that it will never be returned there.

Eventually, Jubilee Gardens will be swallowed up by the combination of an office block, an underground car park, restricted access and part-privatisation as past of the County Hall redevelopment.

An early casualty has been the popular Thamesday festival which was cancelled this year and is unlikely to return unless the campaign is successful. Already the London Marathon has been asked to look elsewhere for a place to stage the marathon finish.

Much of this could be avoided if London Underground moved their worksite from the Gardens to the side of the now disused County Hall. They are reluctant to do this, however, which would allow the Gardens to stay open, because they say the County Hall developers would demand compensation from them.

London Underground still require parliamentary permission for their Jubilee Line extension, and Waterloo residents have said they will oppose London Underground's Bill in Parliament if they do

not agree to move the worksite.

At a meeting at Waterloo Action Centre on 25th September, angry local residents, including Kate Hoey MP, demanded of the Jubilee Line Project Director, Russel Black, that London Underground move the worksite to allow continued public use of Jubilee Gardens. Mr Black said he would take this demand back to the London Transport's Board.

In the meantime, Queen's Walk Society has written to various bodies in Waterloo asking them not to accept any offer from the London Residuary Body to relocate the play equipment to their open spaces. The community needs extra facilities, the Society argues, but not at the cost of closing down Jubilee Gardens.

## Dance Theatre proposed for Brooke Bond site

Offices, then housing, now a Dance Theatre. The latest plan for the Brooke Bond site, near the corner of Baylis Road and Westminster Bridge Road, is a 3,000 seat Dance Theatre.

This has been proposed by Speyhawk, the property development company which owns the land. In addition, they have submitted an alternative planning application to Lambeth Council for offices on the site.

In the Waterloo District Plan the site is zoned for offices. At a public inquiry on the site in 1988, local residents argued

against a proposal for luxury housing and in favour of a scheme comprising offices and a supermarket. This is still the position of the Waterloo Community Development Group, which argues that offices should be confined to this area, in accordance with the Waterloo District Plan, to prevent office pressures on residential areas.

As a result of the inquiry, the developer got permission for housing which was never built due to the collapse of the residential property market at the end of 1988. Now, they have come up with the Dance Theatre proposal.

One of the obvious problems

associated with this proposal is the volume of traffic that would be generated in the area. The theatre would be right next to Matteson, Long and Munro flats and the Tenants Federation there are very worried about illegal parking on their estate.

The Dance Theatre would also mean the loss of the Lambeth Building Society and the Horse and Groom pub on Westminster Bridge Road. However, the office proposal, which is the developers' 'second best' option would allow for the retention of those buildings. For more information on the proposals, ring Tina or Dave on 633 9291 at WCDG.

## LDDC deficit hits community spending

The London Docklands Development Corporation, planning overlords of Southwark's riverfront, has gone into the red for the first time in its 10-year existence. Its latest annual report and financial statement shows a loss of £4.25 million last financial year.

The collapse of the Docklands residential and commercial property market since the end of 1988 is the main reason for the loss. A considerable proportion of the LDDC's income derives from sales of land in its ownership, much of it taken over from the Docklands boroughs when the LDDC was set up in 1981. With falling land values and developers pulling out of deals, income from land sales has plummeted.

Hardest hit by the LDDC's losses will be the Corporation's community programme. This was expected to reach £40 million this year, but has been restricted to £24 million.

Social housing projects seem to have borne the brunt of the cuts, according to Docklands Forum, a community organisation which monitors the activities of the LDDC. One scheme, the purchase of housing for fair rents at Hithe Point in Surrey Docks, has been shelved. In another instance, the LDDC is seeking to defer its contribution to the refurbishment of the Osprey Estate.

The community programme, to build fair rented housing and provide other community

facilities, was only recently established in response to years of criticism that the LDDC had done almost nothing to improve the quality of life of Docklands residents.

There is still speculation that the LDDC will soon pull out of Surrey Docks, where it considers that 'regeneration' is complete. Planning control powers in the area would then be returned to Southwark Council.

Meanwhile, Olympia & York, Canadian property development giant with substantial interests in Docklands, has bought out Jacob's Island's interest in the £395 million second phase of the Surrey Quays shopping centre. They are now the sole developer of the scheme.

## Carers Fair

Isolation, love, frustration, stress and tiredness. These are some of the emotions felt by people who look after someone at home. They may be caring for someone who is frail or ill, or for someone with a disability. Perhaps they are always popping in to look after a neighbour, or making regular trips to visit a relative who needs frequent help.

One adult in seven is a carer. And almost everybody knows someone who works hard to look after a relative or friend. Many carers find it difficult to know what help is available. And then it can be hard to get hold of it.

A Carers Fair will be held on Tuesday 9th October from 1.30 to 7.00pm at the Rotherhithe Leisure Centre SE16. The fair will allow carers in and around Bermondsey and Rotherhithe to ask for information and advice about local services. There will be no charge to carers for entrance or refreshments. Buses 47 and 188 stop outside the Centre.

Relatives and carers will be able to meet members of local support groups, to hear about the Carers Programme to run at the Surrey Docks Health Centre in the Autumn, to ask about the local health services, about voluntary sector organisations and other Southwark services. There will be a chance to ask about carers' benefits.

The Fair has been organised by Southwark Carers, the local project of Carers' National Association.

For further information, contact Southwark Carers, 2 Davey Street, London SE15 6LP.

## Surrey Row facelift

Southwark Environment Trust have devised a scheme of improvements for the Surrey Row Open Space, a neglected site adjoining Blackfriars Settlement and facing Pakeman House in Surrey Row.

Working in conjunction with Applegarth House Residents Committee and others in the area, Southwark Environment Trust aims to landscape the open space in order to provide a more pleasant environment for local people. A new fence will be built around the site and the adjacent pavement widened for the benefit of pedestrians.

## ACTIVITIES AT THE BOROUGH COMMUNITY CENTRE

- Monday: 10.00am - 12.00pm - Mother & Toddler Group  
1.00pm - 2.00pm - Aerobics Class (£3/session)
- Tuesday: 11.00am - 2.00pm - Pensioners Pop-In  
6.30pm - 8.30pm - Junior Youth Club
- Wednesday: 1.00pm - 3.00pm - Mother & Toddler Group  
2.00pm - 4.00pm - Advice Session  
(Advice worker from Blackfriars Settlement is available to give advice).  
7.00pm - 10.00pm - Bingo
- Thursday: 1.30pm - 4.30pm - Baby Clinic  
(Previously held at St George's Health Clinic)  
7.00pm - 9.30pm - Senior Youth Club
- Friday: 10.30am - 2.00pm - Pensioners Pop-In
- Saturday: AM - Children's Irish Dancing
- Sunday: 4.00pm - 6.00pm - Pensioners Sunday Club

We also have a large hall which is available for hire for private activities or by local groups.

For more information on any of the above activities, why not pop in or give us a ring on 928 6476, and ask for either Ruth or Janette. The workers are always available for advice or information. No appointment necessary.

## BOROUGH COMMUNITY CENTRE

56 Southwark Bridge Road, SE1  
(The old Library on the corner of Union Street)

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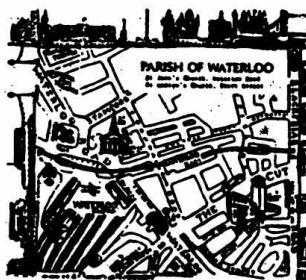
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# SE1

SE1 newspaper is produced for residents of Waterloo and North Southwark by people living and 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 November issue is Wed 26th October. Publication date is 1st November. All contributions and correspondence of any kind concerning the paper 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, from the Borough Community Centre at 56 Southwark Bridge Road, Charterhouse-in-Southwark at 40 Tabard Street, John Harvard Library, Borough Road Library, Morley College, and Blackfriars Settlement at 44 Nelson Square.

### ADVERTISING IN SE1

SE1 newspaper is run on a tight budget. We are largely 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 Vignola on 928 0711.

### FINANCIAL HELP

SE1 acknowledges the financial help of North Southwark Community Development Group, Coin Street Community Builders and the Association of Waterloo Groups. Any financial contributions will be gratefully received.

### 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.

### EDITORIAL GROUP

Mary Dimond, Gerry Vignola