

# The Walworth Project

past, present  
— & future?



## THE STORY SO FAR...

The Users Group meetings were convened by members of the Free Legal Advice Session in April of this year. Without the Project's support and expertise the Legal workers realised it would definitely mean the end of their Legal Advice Session and they felt that would be a real loss to Southwark.

The attendance and interest shown at the meetings was astonishing; it was the first time that all of the Users of the Project were together. Everyone was surprised at the vast range of activities started, run and supported by the Project. Immediate suggestions for a Petition lobby and publicity were unanimously agreed upon, for by this stage we knew that the future of the Project would be decided in June 1980 at Southwark's General Purposes and Finance Committee meeting. We arranged meetings with local Councillors, wrote to the press and all of

the Councillors as well as phoning them. A deputation even went to see Harry Lamborn at the House of Commons who pledged his support for the Project.

In less than two weeks, over 900 people signed the petition in support of the Project. Thus, when the lobby and delegation attended the Finance Committee meeting to put it's case, we were all pretty confident that the Project would be saved. However, we were all disappointed when the Committee felt that because of the cuts it wasn't even worthwhile making an application for urban aid money.

The Users Group were not happy to accept that decision. They spoke to Harry Lamborn, M.P. again; contacted all of the Councillors and wrote urging that they reconsider their decision.

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## About the Project .....

The Walworth Project started life in April 1976 having secured funding from the Dept. of the Environment's Urban Aid Programme for a period of 5 years. Many local people may not distinguish it from the old Newington Community Development Project which operated in the first half of the 70's. Some of the work was indeed very similar but the C.D.P. only covered the Newington Ward and was administered and financed under entirely different arrangements. The Walworth Project covers the Newington, Browning and Paradise Wards. It is part of the Southwark Borough Council and comes under the Community Development Officer in the Town Clerks Department.

The Project is made up of the following:

- \* an advice centre, staffed by an organiser and one full-time advice worker
- \* the Over 60's Employment Bureau, staffed by one worker and operating in St. Albans Hall
- \* two community workers, one of whom specialises in work with the elderly
- \* one full-time and one part-time clerical worker who give secretarial and administrative support both to the project and to the public
- \* a Toy Library based on the Aylesbury Estate with its own management committee

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# WALWORTH PENSIONERS PROJECT

## Some of the facilities we can offer

### OVER SIXTIES EMPLOYMENT BUREAU

ORGANISER: Ronald Veltman  
The Bureau seeks to match pensioners who are looking for work, with jobs notified to us by employers.

Details of the Bureau are given in the Annual Report and in its publicity leaflet.

PLEASE HELP YOURSELF !

### ADVICE TO GROUPS

We can give advice on:

- organisation
- local contacts
- raising funds
- managing your finances
- role of a committee
- help with printing and publicity
- where to get transport

See also our Guide  
For Pensioner Groups  
(copies are free).

### CLUBS MEETINGS

are held every six or eight weeks and offer a chance for those active in groups and local individuals to share views, find out information, hold joint events.

If you are interested in receiving information of Clubs Meetings and other activities, please let Ian or Jackie know.

### DARTS LEAGUE

Last year, a Darts League was started, with six local groups taking part. In a photo-finish, Thurlow Lodge Senior Citizens won the League, with St Albans Day Centre a close second.

**WE NEED MORE TEAMS  
FOR A 1984 LEAGUE !**

### HEALTH FORUM

We are planning to convene a series of meetings looking at health issues for pensioners: finding out what certain illnesses and conditions really mean; how they can be prevented or treated; what the NHS does or does not do to help.

A planning meeting will be held in August to decide where, when and how the Forum should be organised.

**JOIN UP WHILE PLACES ARE AVAILABLE**

### PENSIONERS AS PEDESTRIANS

If you were one of the 90 or so people who attended our Annual General Meeting in May, you will remember the strong call for action on problems of parking, pavements, obstructions etc. It was agreed there should be a public meeting on this issue in September.

If you wish to be kept informed of this meeting, or wish to be involved in planning it, please let us know.

### LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

In conjunction with Tabard Adult Education Institute and ourselves, people from a number of local groups are starting a LOCAL HISTORY GROUP on 1st October.

Would you or your members be interested in helping out in some way?

### GUIDE FOR PENSIONER GROUPS

In March 1984, we produced this Guide which gives advice on getting a group started, how to cope with difficulties that arise, and places and people to contact. It also gives a list of resources. The Guide is free.

### EQUIPMENT

We can loan your group:

- wheelchairs
- music equipment
- tapes for parties, etc
- tape recorder for recording meetings, etc
- videos on pensioners issues.

If in doubt, ask us !

# The Pensioners' Charter

**Every man and woman on reaching state pensionable age will have the right to:**

- a basic state pension set above the official poverty level and linked to average male earnings.
- a warm and comfortable home.
- free health care treatment based on clinical need and an annual comprehensive health check.
- free community care and services to assist living at home.
- free long-term care.
- free nationwide travel on all public and local transport.
- free education, access to and participation in leisure and cultural activities.
- goods, services and benefits without age discrimination.
- active engagement and consultation on national and local issues affecting older citizens.
- advocacy, dignity, respect and fair treatment in all aspects of their lives.



# Walworth Pensioners Project

186 Crampton Street London SE17 3AE

What do you think of residential homes for the elderly?



Your chance to tell us your views, to meet people working in and living in homes, sheltered housing and council housing; and to tell Council, MPs too!

Your views on council housing?



Do you or will you want to live in sheltered housing with a warden



PUBLIC MEETING AND AGM OF WALWORTH PENSIONERS PROJECT at Pasley Tenants Hall

Thursday June 5th

10.30 - 3.30 pm

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 11.00 - 12.00 | Discussions on Housing                            |
| 12.00 - 1.00  | Annual General Meeting                            |
| 1.00 - 2.00   | Lunch   |
| 2.00 - 3.30   | QUESTION TIME on housing & other issues, with:    |
|               | - Harriet Harman MP                               |
|               | - Simon Hughes MP                                 |
|               | - Anne Matthews, new leader of Southwark Council. |



LUNCH provided (free)  
WHEELCHAIR ACCESS  
TRANSPORT if necessary  
phone 701 8949

**Public Meeting on  
PEDESTRIANS  
RIGHTS**

**Monday 29th October  
2.00 pm**

**The Hall  
42 Braganza St.  
SE17 (See over)**

This meeting has been called by the following:

- North Southwark Pensioners Action Group
- Southwark Disablement Association
- The Friday (Pensioners) Club
- Walworth Pensioners Project

For any further information, please contact  
the Walworth Pensioners Project, 186 Crampton  
Street, SE17. Tel: 701 8949



THE MEETING WILL BE:

- to hear the views of groups and residents in the Walworth area.
- to hear what the authorities have to say. The Police, Council officers and councillors and MPs have been invited to speak, as well as representatives of local people.
- to agree a Charter for Pedestrians Rights.

It will be chaired by George Nicholson, GLC Councillor.

Access: there is wheelchair access to the hall.

Transport: please telephone the Walworth Pensioners Project, if you need transport.  
(701 8949)

# Walworth Pensioners Project

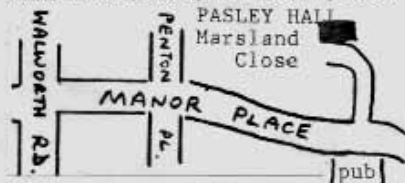
186 Crampton Street London SE17 3AE

Tel: 701 8949 Community Work & General Enquiries 703 5066 Over Sixties Employment Bureau

..news... **april** ..85..news..

## PUBLIC MEETING AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF WPP

on  
WEDNESDAY 22nd MAY 2.00 pm  
at  
PASLEY TENANTS CLUBROOM, 2  
MARSLAND CLOSE, WALWORTH, SE17



Transport available, ph. 701 8949

On Wednesday 22nd May, we will be holding our Annual General Meeting, and you are invited! The main part of the meeting will be **SPEAKERS AND DISCUSSION ON "CARE IN THE COMMUNITY"**

What will happen if the Health Authorities go ahead with plans to close more local hospitals? And if there are no more places in sheltered housing or residential homes? Who will care for the very elderly? What support services do we want to see?

JOHN BLAND (national Association of Carers) and TOM GIBSON (Southwark Pensioners Action Group) will be there to speak and answer questions on these crucial issues.

- plus REPORTS ON THE WORK OF W.P.P. LAST YEAR AND NEXT YEAR,
- plus THE DRAW FOR THE PENSIONERS STUDY TRIP RAFFLE
- plus ELECTION OF NEW MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (see enclosed)
- plus WINE AND REFRESHMENTS

## MOVING AGAIN! RETURN TO CRAMPTON STREET.

The building works are now completed, and we will be moving back to 186 Crampton Street on Thursday 2nd May. We hope the telephone numbers will revert back on the same day, i.e.

701 8949, Ian & Jackie,  
703 5066, Ronald.

(but see Employment Bureau article for re-opening dates.)

Help!

## PENSIONERS STUDY TRIP... ... COULD YOU HELP...

As many people will know, we have been organising a Pensioners Study trip to look at services, pensions and conditions for retired people abroad. The Study Trip will be from 7th-17th May and will visit France, Germany and Holland. The twelve people going represent a range of organisations, concerned with health, disability, pensions, housing, caring, residential homes, and other issues of concern to retired people.

We have had a hard job raising the money needed for the Trip, and you may already have heard from us. If not please read on.....pta