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**HYSON GREEN DEVELOPMENT
TENANTS ASSOCIATION**

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PAST, PRESENT, and FUTURE

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CREDITS

Produced and published by the Hyson Green Development Tenants Association.

Printed by the Russell Press.

Printing funded by Community Project Foundation (C.P.F.).

Final typing courtesy C.V.S. and A.R.C. of Nottingham.

Photo on cover and on p.41 by Roger Suckling.

Remaining photographs by fotografix, Nottingham Community Arts and Crafts Centre, Gregory Boulevard, Hyson Green, Nottingham.
Telephone: Nottingham 782463/788575.

Graphics on front cover and pp. 4,20,25,33 by Jane Goddard, 162 Egypt Road, New Basford, Nottingham.

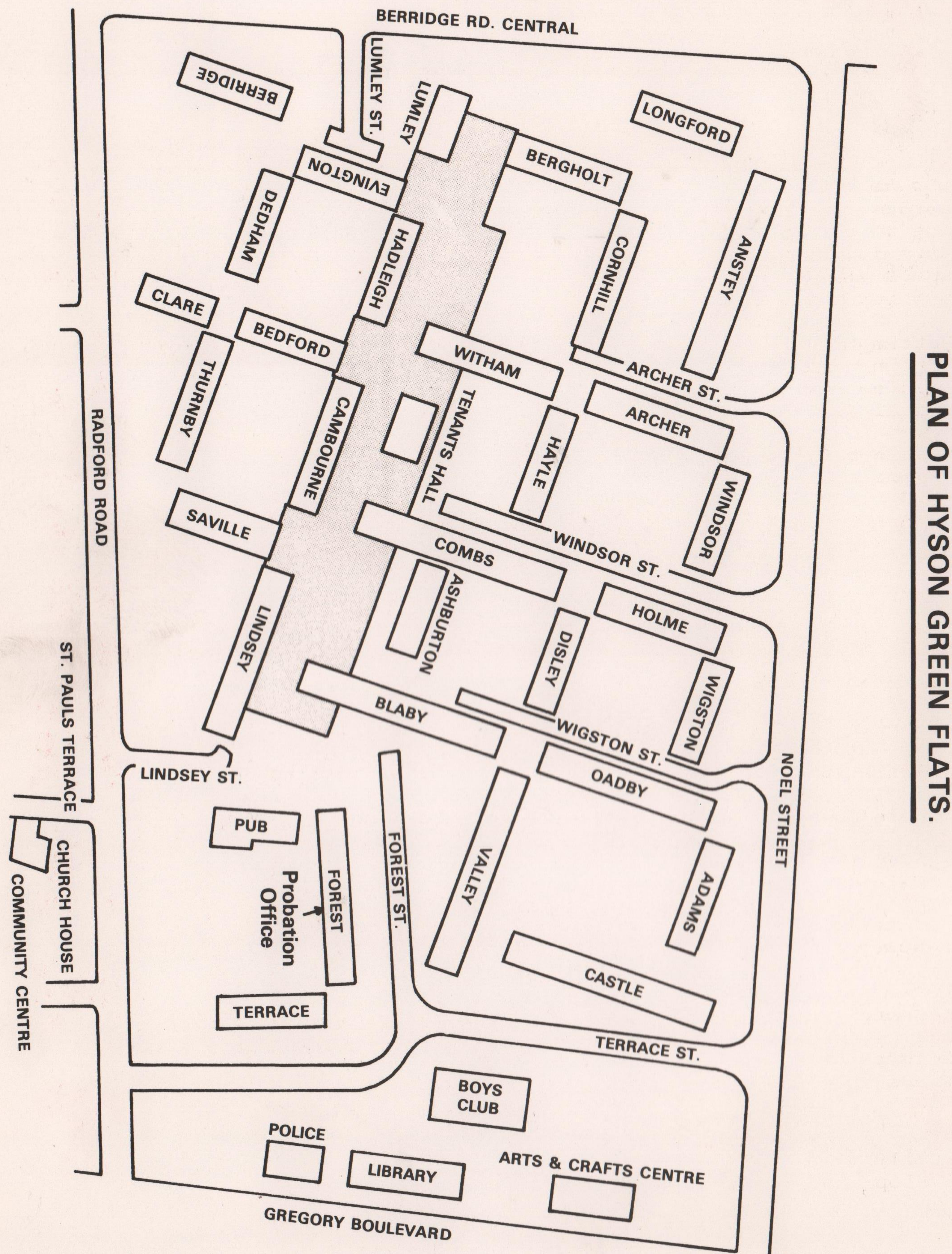
Graphics/Illustrations on pp. 2,24,47,48 by Navvie Brick, 48 St. Mary's Gate, Nottingham. Telephone: Nottingham 590238.

Artists Impressions of workshops courtesy of D.T.S., Nottingham City Council.

Drawing and poem on p.21 by Briandon Scott of Claremont School.

HYSON GREEN PUBLICATIONS

~September 1980~



INTRODUCTION

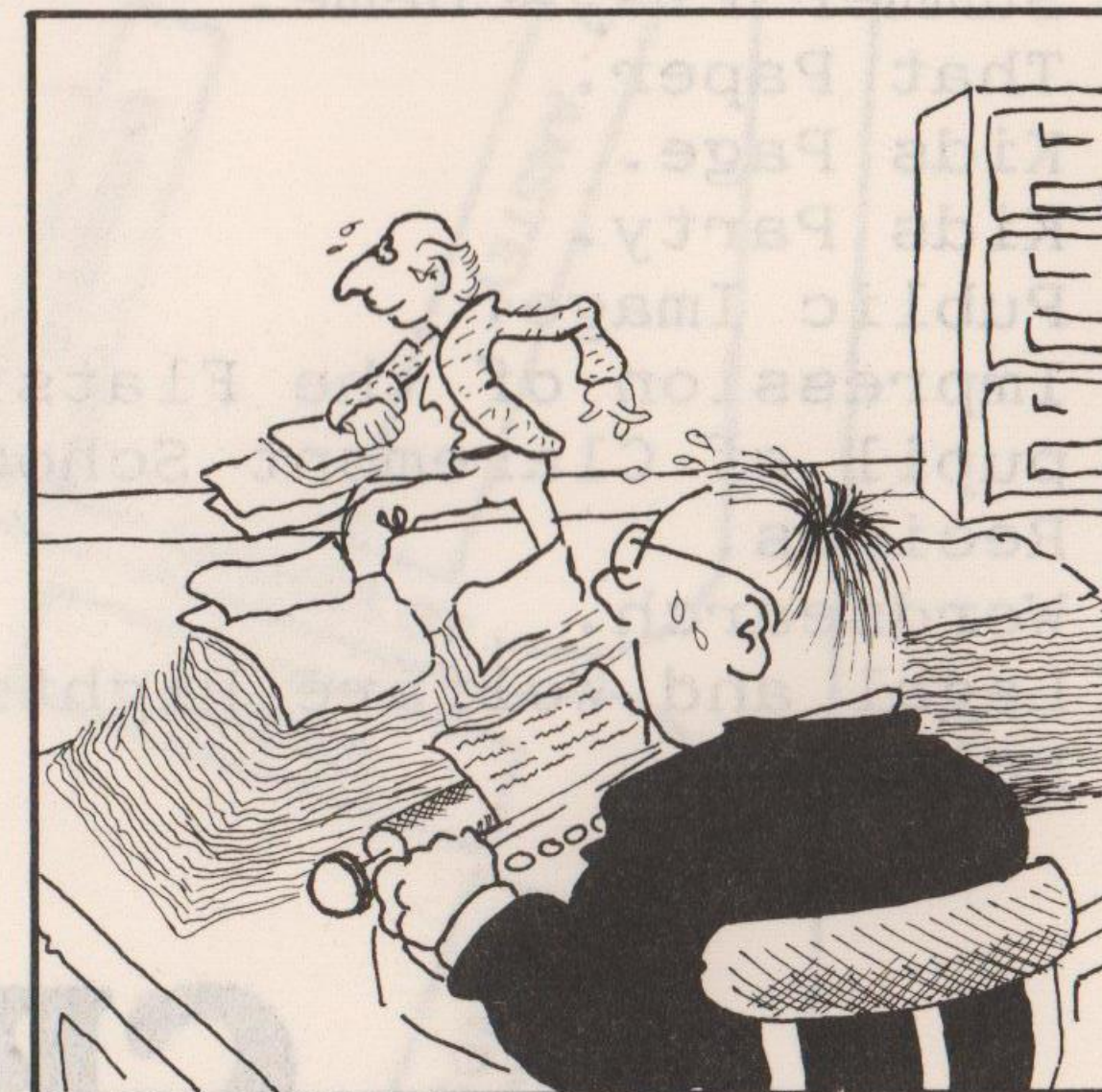
The Konkrete Elephant is the communication link between the Hyson Green Development Tenants Association and the tenants who live in the flats complex. It describes what the Tenants Association is doing and why it is doing it. It is for all tenants and is there to be used by you as a means of expressing your views and opinions about life in the flats.

In the past Konkrete Elephant has been produced on a regular basis (as some of you will know) but this has been very difficult to achieve due to the wide range of issues the Tenants Association has been involved in and the number of people it takes to work on those issues. For this reason we are planning to set up a working party specially for the magazine. Already a couple of people are interested in this but we need more tenants to be involved.

As you can see, this Konkrete Elephant is a bumper addition and it is divided into three parts - past, present and future. There are three reasons for this. Firstly, because of the population movement in the complex (up to 30% a year), there are inevitably tenants who are not aware of the Tenants Association, the access they have to it, and what it has done in the past. Secondly, it demonstrates that tenants can change their own environment and other aspects of life if they have the confidence and the will. We think that this is clearly demonstrated throughout the 'Elephant' (and more has been done than is just in this magazine). Thirdly, this edition is going out to councillors, city officers, community groups, national agencies etc. to demonstrate what a responsible Tenants Association can achieve with the help of all those indicated above. The material included in these pages will also give an idea of the life of the tenants who live in the complex and the type of problems they face.

This Konkrete Elephant itself is the result of the work of a group of tenants. If it is to be successful in the future we need more tenants to be involved in the production and distribution. In particular, we would like one tenant from each block (a "blocksitter") to act as a future distributor of the magazine. This would only take about half-an-hour every month.

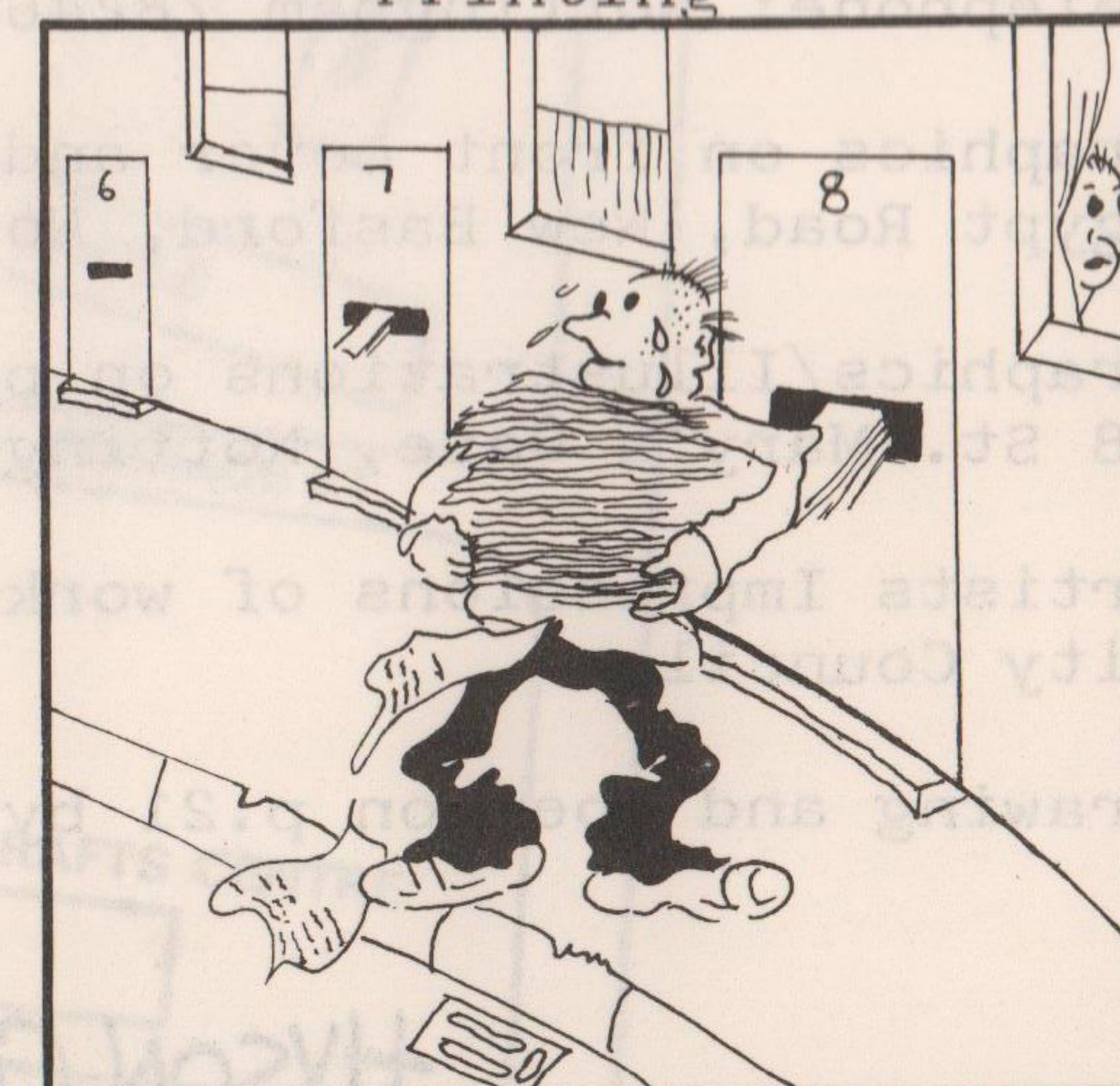
Enjoy your reading.



Production



Printing



Distribution

What is a Tenants Association?

Our T.A. is not part of the Council or local government, as is often thought. We are not paid professionals or workers. Also we are not connected with any particular political party so we don't campaign on anybody's behalf except on behalf of the flats' tenants.

We are just ordinary tenants who live in the flats which is why we understand the problems of Hyson Green. Because we live in the flats we feel we are closer to the problem, and their solution than professionals, like Social Workers, Probation Officers or Planners. The Hyson Green Development Tenants Association (H.G.D.T.A.) acts like a bridge, a means of communication between the tenants and outside agencies such as The Housing Department, D.H.S.S. and the City Treasury. (Rent Office).

O.K. then, what does the H.G.D.T.A. do? Part of it's function is to help with tenants individual problems such as getting repairs done adequately, negotiating with Social Security and generally helping with any complaints or problems individual tenants have. The T.A. in the past (and it plans to in the future) has planned and organised social events for the tenants and their children (e.g. the kids' party see **p. 17** parts of the Hyson Green Festival; Jumble Sales and, last year, community dances).

But we see our major role as representing tenants interests in a whole variety of ways. Firstly, we are concerned to campaign for improvements, both to individual flats and to the whole complex. On page 11 you can read about the success of the housing improvement programme (H.I.P.) based on the survey we carried out. As you know there are still improvements to be made and with your help the T.A. can negotiate with the Council to bring about change. Secondly we want to protect the flats from developments and action that will go against the interests of the tenants. And the reverse

side of the coin is that the T.A. aims to initiate new forward-looking development which will make the flats a much better place to live in. The garages to workshops scheme is a good example of this in terms of getting rid of a problem which are the garages as they are and replacing them with a positive idea of turning them into workshops thereby providing employment and an improved quality of life.

To bring about improvements, change and development we need YOUR ideas and opinions of what you think should be done to improve the flats. We represent your interests and therefore we can only do that if we know what the body of tenants want and need.

This T.A. is an example of what people can do in difficult circumstances. Other groups in different areas of the city have also achieved as much (and more), for example, preventing the sale of council houses on a new estate and making them available to tenants of clearance areas. (This was in Radford).

We can't expect local authorities and outside agencies to have the answers as is often thought, because those answers aren't always relevant because they don't live in areas like Hyson Green and so aren't touched by the reality of life there. YOU DO.



WORKSHOPS

The story so far....



Here are the present abandoned garages, dangerous and dirty....



Scene of vandalism and violence, a dump for stolen cars.



photo: John Boyd

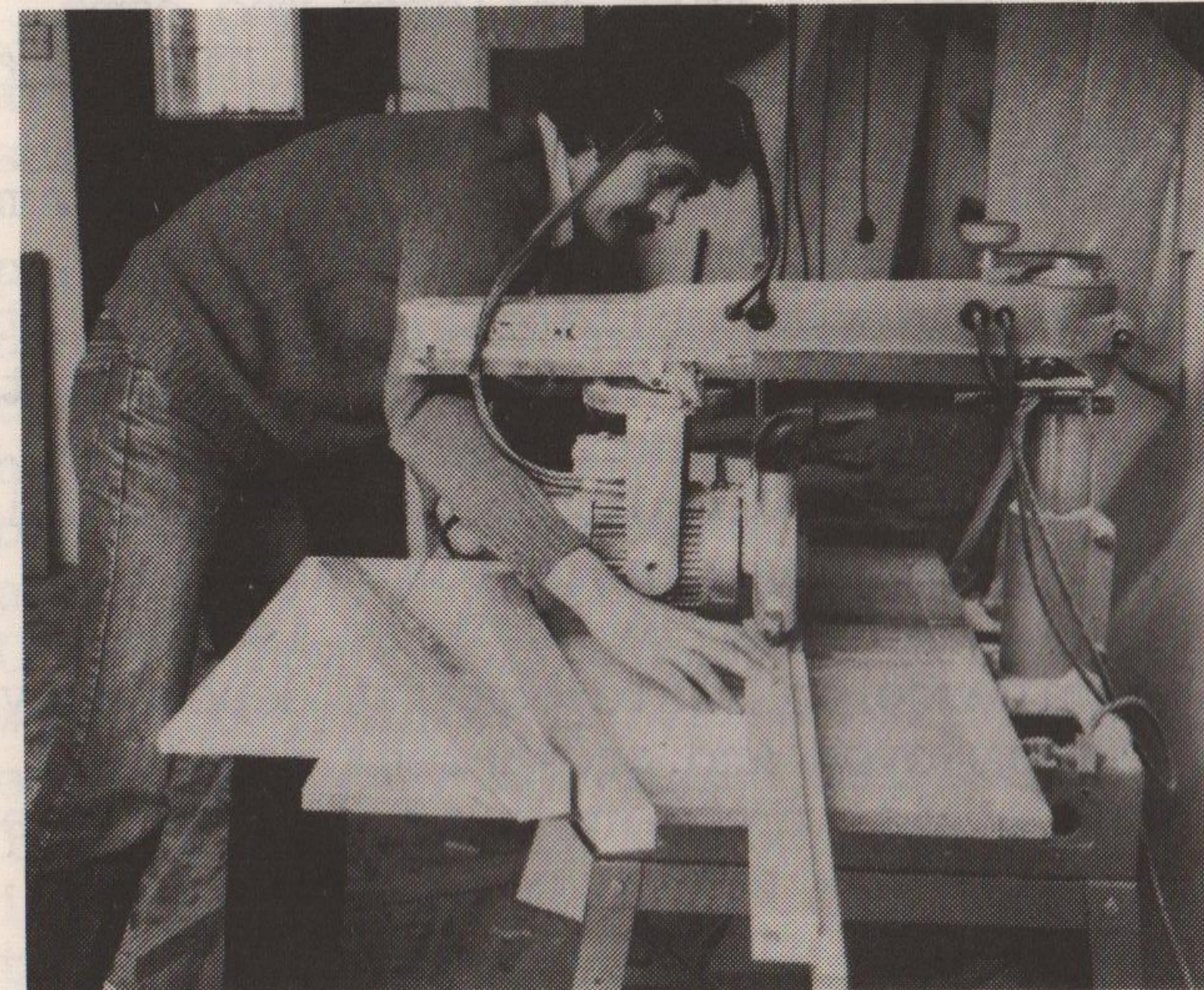
We have walked to London with a petition to stop the farcical 'Bowling Green' project.



photo: Bryan Moore

We have been to Brussels to get EEC funding for the scheme.

PROJECT



Clerkenwell Workshops, London.

We are turning them into a number of workshops which we intend to run collectively and bring money into the area through training and employment.



Illustration by Cliff Harper.



And we have exhibited locally both models and plans of the project.



Now read on....

WORKSHOPS

By the first half of 1981 part of the garage block underneath the Hyson Green Development will have been converted into 28 small workshop units, as a part of Nottingham City Council's Inner Area Programme. If on time, most, if not all, of these workshops will also be tenanted and operational. Some will be operated by established business concerns - some by 'first-time' enterprises and others are earmarked for an ongoing training scheme funded, hopefully, by the European Economic Community (EEC) in partnership with national and local employment agencies. It is a significant and imaginative project with lessons for the future drawn against the experiences of the past.

HOW DID IT ALL COME ABOUT?

The most remarkable thing about the scheme is that it was defined and promoted by the tenants of Hyson Green themselves, through the Hyson Green Development Tenants Association (HGDTA) - with a lot of help from their friends and a little from their enemies too!

WHY THE WORKSHOPS SCHEME?

The structural and social disaster of the Hyson Green Complex is well documented. Physically ugly, this late '60s built flats complex of just under 600 1 to 3 bedroomed flats and maisonettes, features 'deck access' and surrounding 'walkways' linking to a main concourse area.

Occupying two levels, with the concourse as a roof, are the garages under the flats - vandalised and derelict as they have been for many years. Scene and location of minor and major crimes, including car dumping and child molestation, the garages have also been an unofficial dump for local industry's waste and an unsupervised play area. Their social and economic cost to the community at large is alarming.

SOME OTHER PROBLEMS IN HYSON GREEN

The garages are not the only problem for the flats and for answers to the others we have to look for causes.

Certainly one cause of the present situation came as a result of the clearance areas of Nottingham. That programme put some 30,000 people in need of re-housing. It was, however, the families with children who came, as urgent re-housing cases. This influx into the flats in consequence put a terrific strain on the type of accommodation - arguably not suitable for families with children. Subsequently a 'hard to let' tag attached itself to the flats and the image remains. Up to date the complex has a concentration of depressing statistics indicating multi-deprivation. There is high incidence of state benefit dependency (unemployed and one parent families), and social problems over a wide range. If this was not enough, there is the additional difficulty faced by a community which, as a fractional part of the Police Sub-Division also called Hyson Green (which covers 1/3rd of Nottingham), takes responsibility for the crime statistics for that huge area in the minds of the general public.

Seeking solutions to their problems, the flats Tenants Association conducted several surveys, one of which identified the problem of the garages. On examination of the several options open for dealing with the garages none was so appropriate as their conversion to workshops. It was because this was the possible answer to so many of the difficulties that HGDTA, on behalf of the tenants, campaigned long and hard to make the dream a reality.

WHAT IS THE REALITY?

- * The conversion of the garages into workshops units to provide local employment opportunities missing at present.
- * Opportunity for displaced craftsmen and first time starters looking for cheap units to work from.
- * A potential training scheme to learn and develop skills and experience, with a youth element provided.

HOW WILL IT OPERATE?

There are three parts to the scheme.

Part 1. In order to ensure the success of the workshops, there will be a 'hard core' element of commercially viable businesses invited to take up some of the larger units. This will be done with the help of the Industrial Development agency of the City Council. The criteria for letting to commercial concerns will be monitored in an attempt to ensure that there is scope for local people to be employed.

Part 2. For the first time or small business operation requiring help and cheap accommodation. Some of that help will come through a proposed pre-training course being organised and run by the Small Business Studies Unit of Trent Polytechnic, together with the Training Services Division of the Manpower Services Commission. This course has already been advertised locally by the HGDTA and initial take-up is encouraging. The course is starting in December this year. More application forms for the course may be circulated in a wider area before then.

Part 3. This is the Training Workshops Unit plan. HGDTA members and their advisors visited EEC officers in Brussels and, as a result of their discussion have lodged an application for aid from the EEC Social Fund for a Pilot Scheme to operate these units. The units are intended to provide the base for future expansion. Here there would be opportunities for the school leaver, the state benefit dependent and the unskilled to develop their own potential. Encouraging existing training agencies and support facilities into the scheme is the current task of HGDTA. A successful Training Units scheme could provide the chance for participants to identify their skills and take them, as either employees or employers, into full time work in the workshops themselves or local industry etc. Consider the example of the trainee securing a contract out of her work experience in the units. She then expands into a business concern in her own right. Here we have the concept and ideal of the scheme as envisaged.

WHO IS INVOLVED?

No serious attempt to provide suitable local employment, and produce economic and social stability in the community can ignore commercial realities and the need for a sound management structure. This project is no exception. The City Council will be actively involved in the scheme. Their legal and business experience is recognised to be an important contributory factor to the potential success of the workshops, and this has been made available. The resources of Trent Polytechnic, through the Small Business Studies Unit, are also available to the project. Through the agency of the Action Resource Centre an experienced and professional management/marketing consultant is to work with the workshops scheme. Additionally, there will be a worker from the newly founded Nottingham Community Projects who will have the project within his/her brief on employment.

WHO CONTROLS?

A local Management structure has been jointly devised and mutually agreed. It comprises a seven strong committee forming a 'company limited by guarantee' comprising three tenants representatives and two City Council representatives, who are on the Management Board as of right. The two others would probably be from experienced business or banking agencies, and nominated by the other five. The structure has legal status and will be the body responsible for devising the conditions and operational performance of the project itself.

This agreed management structure represents a breakthrough in local initiatives in that the control of the scheme is largely in the hands of the tenants, whose majority on the committee ensures that the local voice will be heard. It indicates, too, the will and intent of this City Council to encourage and support community initiatives and, as such, should be applauded.

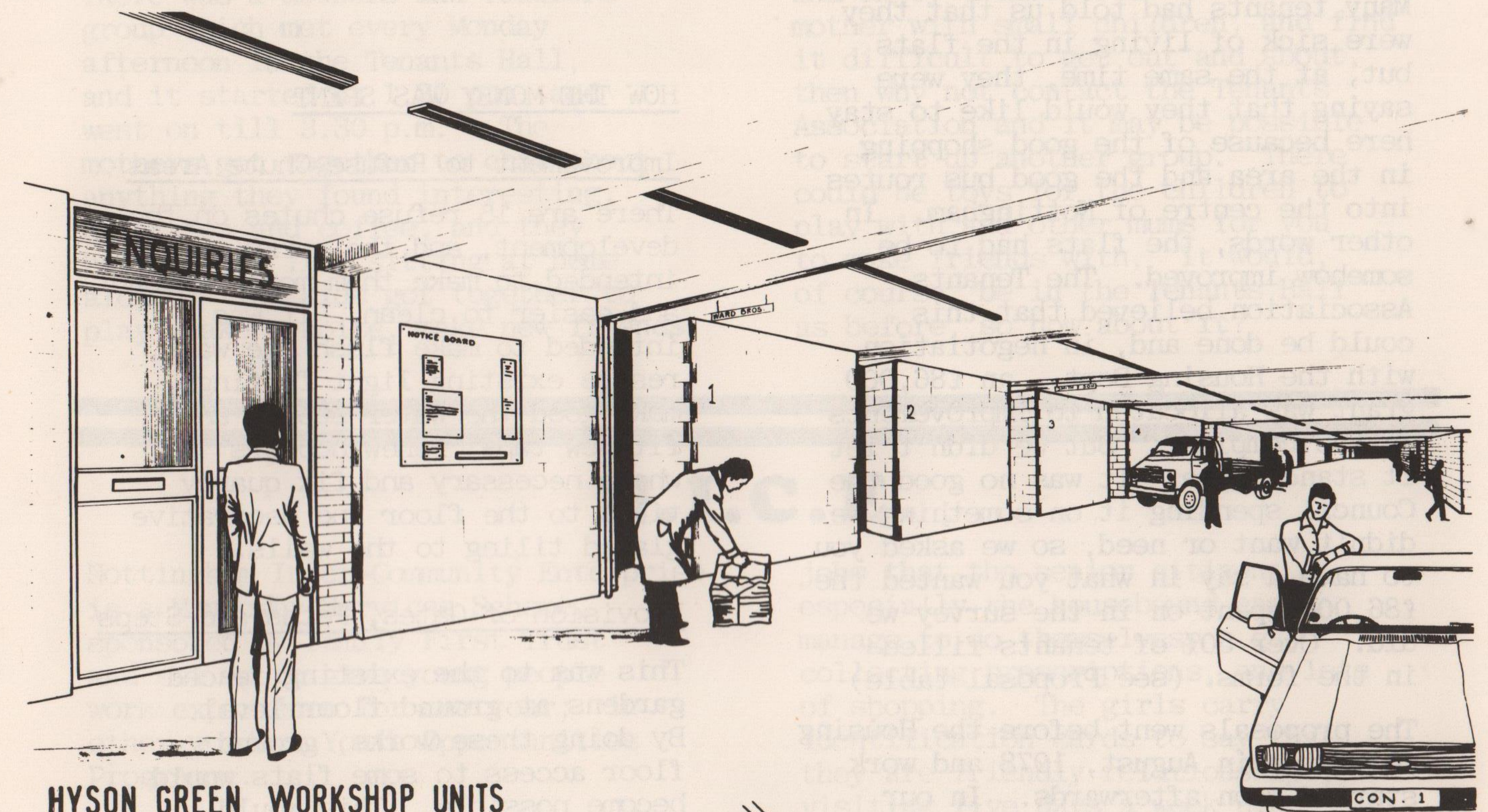
OVER TO YOU.

Now we have everything essential for the success of the scheme. It represents three years hard work and effort from all concerned. For it to have all been worthwhile it needs the final, most important element - it needs YOU and your participation. It needs YOU, if you live in the flats, to grasp the opportunities about to come your way. It needs YOU as a potential employer or first time/small business person to 'have a go'.

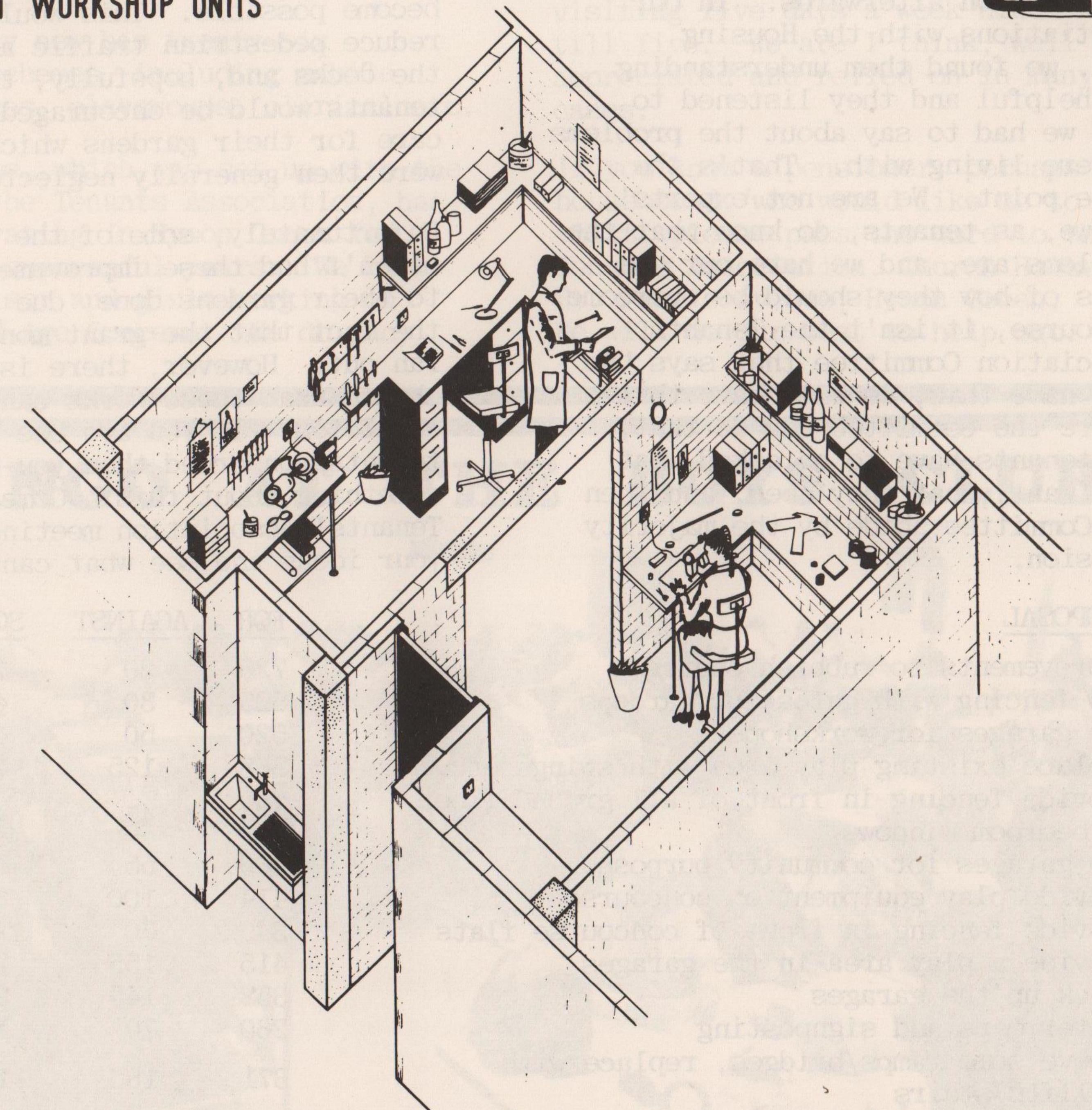
Pluck the apple - put YOUR ideas into practice - you will be supported and encouraged. Do we need creche facilities in Hyson Green? - start one in the workshops. Do you have skills or experience not being used? - put them into the workshops. Have you an idea for a business or know someone who has? - let us know about it. Looking for a job? - look to the workshops.

THIS IS A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY -
DON'T LET IT GO BY!

HYSON GREEN WORKSHOP UNITS



HYSON GREEN WORKSHOP UNITS



HOUSING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME 1979

Many tenants had told us that they were sick of living in the flats but, at the same time, they were saying that they would like to stay here because of the good shopping in the area and the good bus routes into the centre of Nottingham. In other words, the flats had to be somehow improved. The Tenants Association believed that this could be done and, in negotiation with the Housing Dept., an £86,000 grant was allocated to improvements in the complex. But we didn't let it stand there. It was no good the Council spending it on something we didn't want or need, so we asked you to have a say in what you wanted the £86,000 spent on in the survey we did. Over 50% of tenants filled in the forms. (see Proposal table)

The proposals went before the Housing Committee in August, 1978 and work started soon afterwards. In our negotiations with the Housing Dept. we found them understanding and helpful and they listened to what we had to say about the problems we were living with. That's the whole point. We are not 'experts', but we, as tenants, do know what the problems are, and we have our own ideas of how they should be overcome. Of course, it isn't the Tenants Association Committee that says "We will have this, we will have that". Before the Committee can do that, the tenants have to be asked what they want, what they need, and then the Committee abide by the majority decision.

PROPOSAL

Improvements to rubbish chutes
New fencing with gates for gardens
Use garages for workshops
Replace existing play area with swings etc.
Provide fencing in front of all ground floor bedroom windows
Use garages for community purposes
Provide play equipment on concourse
Provide fencing in front of concourse flats
Provide a play area in the garages
Brick up the garages
Better maps and signposting
Remove some ramps/bridges, replace with lifts/stairs
Remove concourse and garages entirely

HOW THE MONEY WAS SPENT

Improvement to Refuse Chute Areas

There are 15 refuse chutes on the development, and the works were intended to make them more pleasant and easier to clean. It was intended to make flush one wall, resite existing light fittings, make good the water supply and fit new taps, renew hoppers where necessary and fix quarry tiles to the floor and decorative glazed tiling to the walls.

Provision of Gates, Paths and Steps

This was to the existing fenced gardens at ground floor level. By doing these works, ground floor access to some flats would become possible. This would reduce pedestrian traffic along the decks and, hopefully, the tenants would be encouraged to care for their gardens which were then generally neglected.

Unfortunately, some of the walks haven't had these improvements to their gardens done, due to the fact that the grant money ran out. However, there is a chance that these works can be completed. If you are one of the tenants concerned then you can do something about this. Come to the Tenants' Association meetings with your ideas and see what can be done.

FOR	AGAINST	SCORE	RANK
723	20	703	1st
525	30	495	2nd
520	50	470	3rd
568	125	443	4th
464	45	419	5th
469	55	414	6th
414	100	314	7th
349	70	279	8th
415	155	260	9th
352	145	207	10th
269	70	199	11th
371	180	191	12th
200	175	25	13th

MOTHERS AND TODDLERS

There was a Mothers and Toddlers group which met every Monday afternoon in the Tenants Hall, and it started at 1.30 p.m. and went on till 3.30 p.m. The mothers got together to chat about anything they found interesting, drank tea and coffee, and they had a break from sitting at home alone. The kids got together to play, make a noise, make new friends,

and enjoy themselves. If you are a mother with small children, and find it difficult to get out and about, then why not contact the Tenants Association and it may be possible to start up another group. There could be toys for the children to play with and other mums for you to make friends with. It would, of course, be in the Tenants Hall as before, so how about it?

N.I.C.E.

Nottingham Inter-Community Enterprise is a Manpower Services Scheme, sponsored by Family First Trust and set up to give young people work experience for one year; in other words a Youth Opportunities Programme.

The agency now has twenty-six various schemes, including mobile work forces, playgroups, clerical etc.

Our scheme, which was set up with the help of the Tenants Association, has been operating in Hyson Green for nearly 2 successful years. We have a supervisor and girls working on behalf of Age Concern. We do many

jobs that the senior citizens, especially the housebound can't manage to do themselves, e.g. collecting prescriptions, and lots of shopping. The girls carry identification cards to say that they are friendly relationships, visiting five days a week nine till five. We are I think, well appreciated and relied on in many cases.

If you know a pensioner, perhaps housebound, who would like us to visit, please pass the word to the Tenants Association, Church House, St. Paul's Avenue, Hyson Green. We will do our best to help out.

BINGO AT THE BOYS CLUB



SUMMER PLAYScheme

Last summer, the T.A. ran a play-scheme during the last two weeks of August. The playscheme attracted an average of 30 kids a day. Activities included trips to Wollaton Park, Highfields, Nottingham Castle and Fire Station, Vernon Park and there was also a sports afternoon when our kids took on the kids from the Cauntton Avenue playscheme.

The two murals on the boiler house walls were also painted as a part of the playscheme. They were carried out with the expert help and supervision of the Arts & Crafts Centre, Gregory Boulevard, and two community artists.

On the second Friday, a disco was held in the community centre and attended by 73 kids, and the community artists also came along for a quick break from the painting. On Saturday, 1st September, we went on a bus trip to Matlock Bath. This was also well attended, with 12 adults and 56 kids going. On the whole, a good first try. With the experience gained last time, we hope that the next one will be even bigger and better. However, this will need more people to take on different activities, and take on responsibilities for those activities. Anyone wishing to help contact John Topham, 19 Anstey Walk.



1981

Next year we are hoping to organise a camping holiday to Wales for one week. We have heard of a camping site where tents are provided and set up before you get there and taken down when you leave, so we might just need ticket money, food money, and spending money. When we get more information we'll publish it in the next Koncrete Elephant and bring leaflets around.



Past and present campaigns in Hyson Green have encountered the longstanding bias of negative media coverage from press, T.V., and radio. Sensational presentation has helped convince the public at large that Hyson Green, and the flats complex in particular, contains a population mainly concerned with creating their own problems. It was the success of the H.G.D.T.A.'s 'garages to workshops' publicity campaign that convinced the T.A. of the value of locally organised communications methods.

By now combined with other local activists in the area, the workshops campaign committee helped form the Green Advancement Programme (G.A.P.). This group were concerned with the common difficulties shared by people in wider Basford, Forest Fields, and Radford area. It was this organisation that the idea came of a community newspaper which would cover the whole area 'That Paper' was eventually set up by H.G.D.T.A. in May 1979, using finance when available from the Manpower Services Commission.

'That Paper' was a 10 worker project employing local people and was designed with a multi brief; to produce a monthly newspaper for information/counselling centre. Based in Hyson Green, the project produced issue number one to coincide with the 1979 Hyson Green Festival, the front page headline reading 'Hyson Green takes off'. During it's all too brief run 'That Paper' progressed to a well presented and quite stylish community news-sheet covering an ever-widening range of topics and news. Since none of the workers on the project had ever had any formal training or experience their achievement with the newspaper was quite remarkable. It's also fair to say that

this inexperience gave rise to problems as well, but the project was cast in a 'sink or swim' situation and those with experience with early S.T.E.P. schemes will understand that not the least of the projects achievements was that it operated for the full 12 months of its contract in the face of revised government thinking on S.T.E.P. schemes.

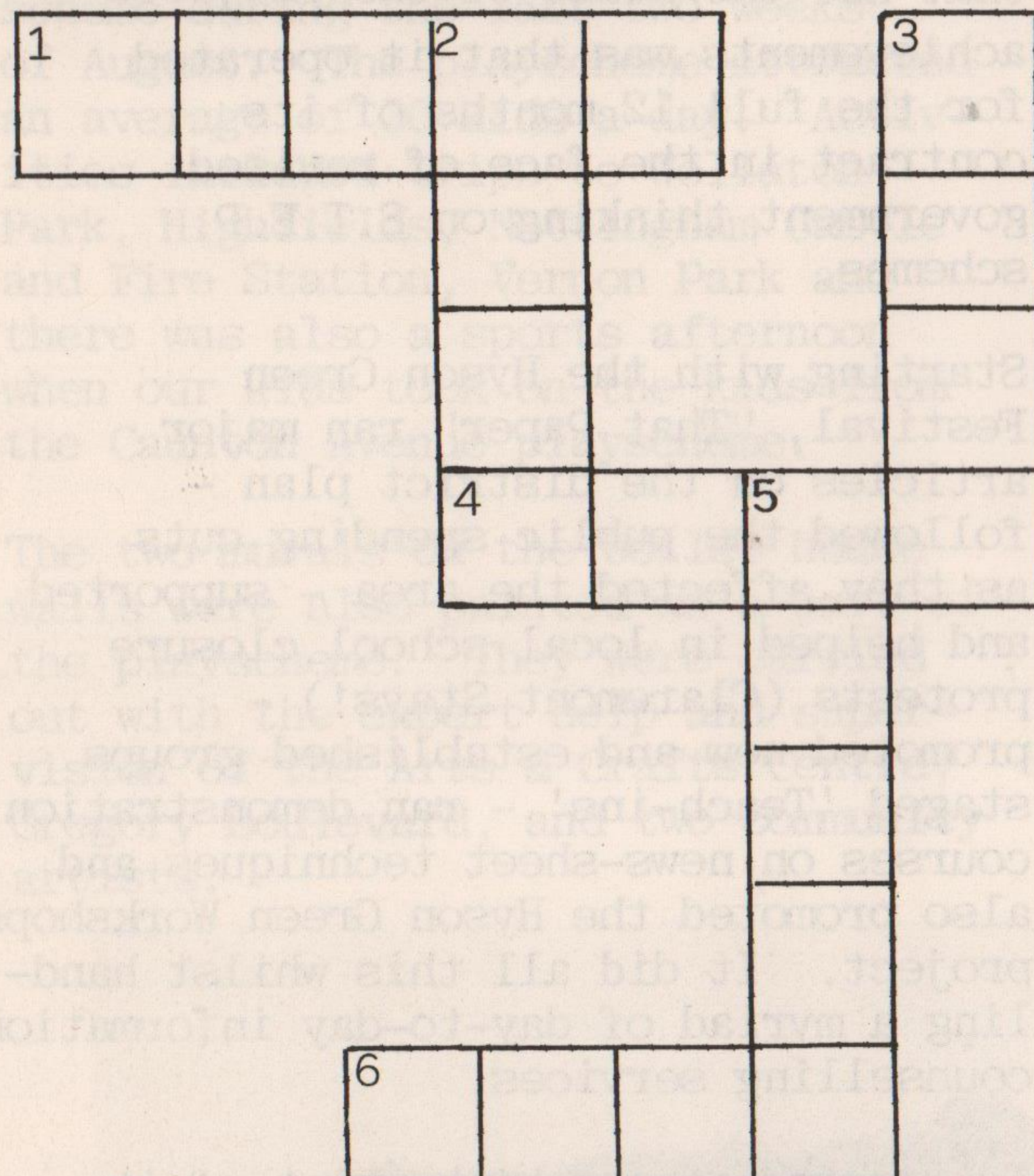
Starting with the Hyson Green Festival, 'That Paper' ran major articles on the district plan - followed the public spending cuts as they affected the area - supported and helped in local school closure protests (Claremont Stays!) - promoted new and established groups staged 'Teach-ins' - ran demonstration courses on news-sheet techniques and also promoted the Hyson Green Workshops project. It did all this whilst handling a myriad of day-to-day information/counselling services.

Terminated at the high point of its success as an increasingly viable financial venture, 'That Paper' did its share in helping to correct the imbalance of the Hyson Green image. Nottingham has now acquired an alternative newspaper, the Nottingham Weekly News, a paper which handles community reporting with more sensitivity than was the case previously. Also, the re-introduction of the Nottingham Arrow by the present City Council has helped to make the closure of 'That Paper' less frustrating. We might be seeing, dare it be said, a gradual but perceptible, amending attitude from the other media forms. This is not to say that the case for close community communication is removed - far from it.

With the opportunities about to be presented in Hyson Green through the workshops project, we may well see the communication theme being expanded. Perhaps a more direct contact is called for. Local radio offers food for thought. A Hyson Green Tenants' radio station?....Can't be done? - Well, we seem to have heard that said somewhere before.

FOR THE KIDS

crossword



CLUES

1. An a day keeps the doctor away.
2. This would grow on a tree.
3. It shines at night.
4. A baby deer.
5. It fits on an axle.
6. It claps its flippers and can balance a ball on its nose.

puzzles

- Q. How do you make a swiss roll?
A. Throw him down a mountain.

- Q. How do you make a venetian blind?
A. Poke him in the eye.

- Q. How do you make a Maltese cross?
A. Stand on his foot.

Why not send in your amusing Questions and Answers riddles we will print all you send us.

football

Are you aged between 13 and 15?
want to join a football team in your spare time? You will need your own boots, but shorts will be provided. It is only 10p so if you are really interested, pop along and see Malcolm Jones, at 6, Cornhill Walk. He will be pleased to see you all.

garden competition

There are some nice gardens in the flats. We would like to hold a competition for the tenants of the flats to see what talented gardeners we've got amongst us. So get digging now. Who knows, you might win? If YOU are interested in helping to organise this or taking part, contact John Topham at 19, Anstey Walk.

THE KIDS PARTY



This was held on the concourse and in the Tenants Hall on Friday, June the 6th. It lasted about 2½ hours and consisted of entertainment from Omoro Street Theatre Group, food and drink prepared and donated by parents, and lastly, some games.

We would like to thank all the parents who helped on the day, members of the tenants association, and especially June Small who was the organiser of the party. Also thank you to 'Garfinkel' of Radford Road, for plates, lollipops, etc. at a discount price.

This was the first time the Tenants Association had attempted to put on a kid's party of this size and we think it went well. There were an estimated 200 kids ranging from a few months to fifteen. We only had two weeks to organise ourselves and although we now see we made a few mistakes we have certainly learnt from them for future occasions.

One thing it has shown to those who are always bringing down the Hyson

Green flats' tenants is that the majority are trying to work together to make this a happy, decent place to live in. We hope that this is just the beginning of giving the kids the opportunity to enjoy themselves. We are now collecting jumble for a sale so that we can organise a day out in August.

There has been a bit of bad news about the proposed jumble sale, because we had already collected quite a bit and were storing it in 1, Windsor Walk's outhouse when someone, whose key fitted the lock got in and stole it. The thief also took some children's toys. That person should be ashamed. People like that are the ones who give a bad name to the flats. It couldn't have been kids as the boxes were too heavy for them to carry.

Concerning the jumble sale, could you look through your things and bring any jumble you might have to 1, Windsor Walk. Thank you. Remember it is for your kids.

IMAGE AND REALITY....

A recent sample survey by the Hyson Green Development Tenants Association covered 200 flats ($\frac{1}{3}$ of the total) asking tenants if they had seen any of the series of T.V. programmes made around Hyson Green/Nottingham within the last two years or so and whether they thought they had presented an accurate account of life in Hyson Green or not.

On a straight Yes (accurate) - No (not accurate) basis the response was over 81% comprising:

NO (not accurate)	69%
YES (accurate)	12.5%

The remaining 18.5% was made up as follows:

10% (20) hadn't seen the programme and couldn't comment.

2.5% (5) were recent tenants and didn't feel they could offer an opinion.

6% (12) of the flats were empty when the survey was done.

There is clear evidence from tenants that they are not happy with the kind of T.V. coverage imposed on the Hyson Green community. Tenants felt it was irresponsible coverage which took no account of their feelings or the resulting problems caused directly or indirectly to the community as a whole, such as :

COMMUNITY INSTABILITY

The community has been affected by adverse coverage of a heavily biased and often distorted nature, giving the outside world an unrealistic view of life here. This has created fear and uncertainty in potential tenants who consequently arrive with no commitment to staying and helping to correct the imbalance.

July 79 - That Paper

WELFARE RIGHTS

This is the first in a series of papers intended to run on different aspects of WELFARE RIGHTS. This time it's:-

The most important thing is that...

...is focused mainly on the area. If that's the case, with only 600 maisonettes in the complex, there would have to have been 15 crimes in each flat committing to last year.

We challenge the media to tell the whole truth. It would be a welcome change. Especially for the people of Hyson Green.

Community Policemen are now being trained at Hyson Green. One P.C. Lambert, is shown below.

County Councillor Dave Kennedy.

...area called by tenants in a small part of the area covered by the Police.

...media encourage such thinking. Hyson Green is reported to have the highest crime rate in the county.

NOTTINGHAM, MONDAY, JUL 1978

Girl, 18 stabbed at flats complex

KNIFE

3-7-78

By KEVIN HILL

Hyson Green image shines

HYSON GREEN "sheep" image last weekend. For the community's two-day festival on The Forest was a huge success. Organisers, who are hoping to repeat the event, said the festival was "a real success" and that it had helped to "show the community in a better light".

A PAINT CURVE FOR VANDALS

YOUNGSTERS in a concrete jungle are being given paint and brushes on the rate in a bid to combat vandalism. They will be asked to paint pictures over the walls of Hyson Green flats.

Many people saw the incident. Susan, 17-year-old, was today recovering from her Hyson Green home in Cam. She was recovering from a kitchen knife wound.

Mr. and Mrs. Sims — they say there was no motive for the attack.

Plunged

"I didn't realise it was a handkerchief until he swam round and plunged it into the water."

Mafia kindergarten flats 'toughest outside London'

By VICTOR SWAIN

THE complex of council flats which has been the scene of a robbery and harassed for months by a "Mafia" of juvenile muggers yesterday as "the worst" in London.

TEENY FOR WID

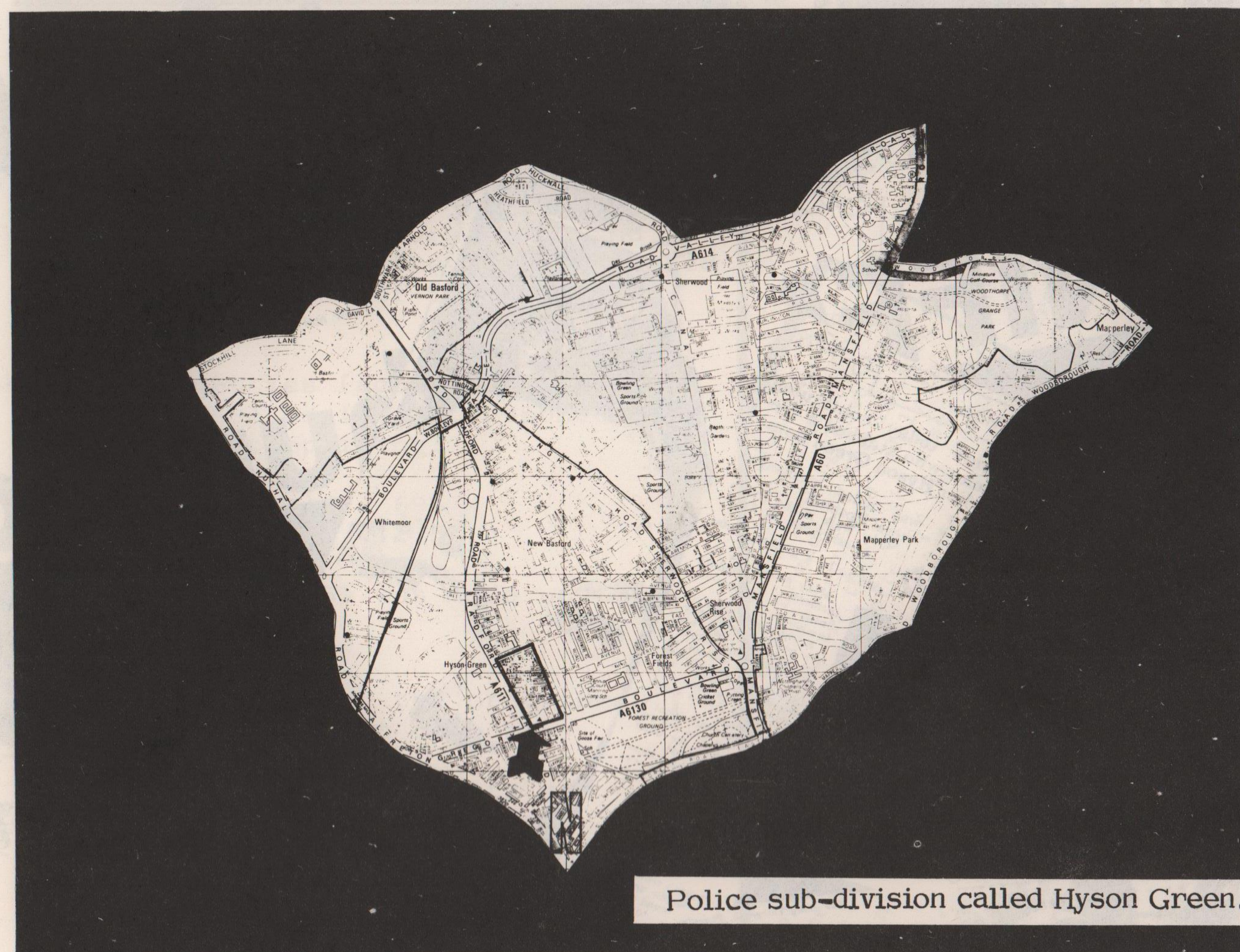
Reputation for crime 'is unfair'

SOCIAL PENALTIES

The majority of tenants are not given the usual opportunities to gain the standard and quality of life which has come to be accepted as normal by others. An example of this is the refusal of H.P. or credit facilities or, at best, the imposition of 'special' conditions imposed on what is claimed to be a 'high risk' community. Tactics and statements, such as the example below, have exaggerated this situation.

THE IMAGE AND THE REALITY.

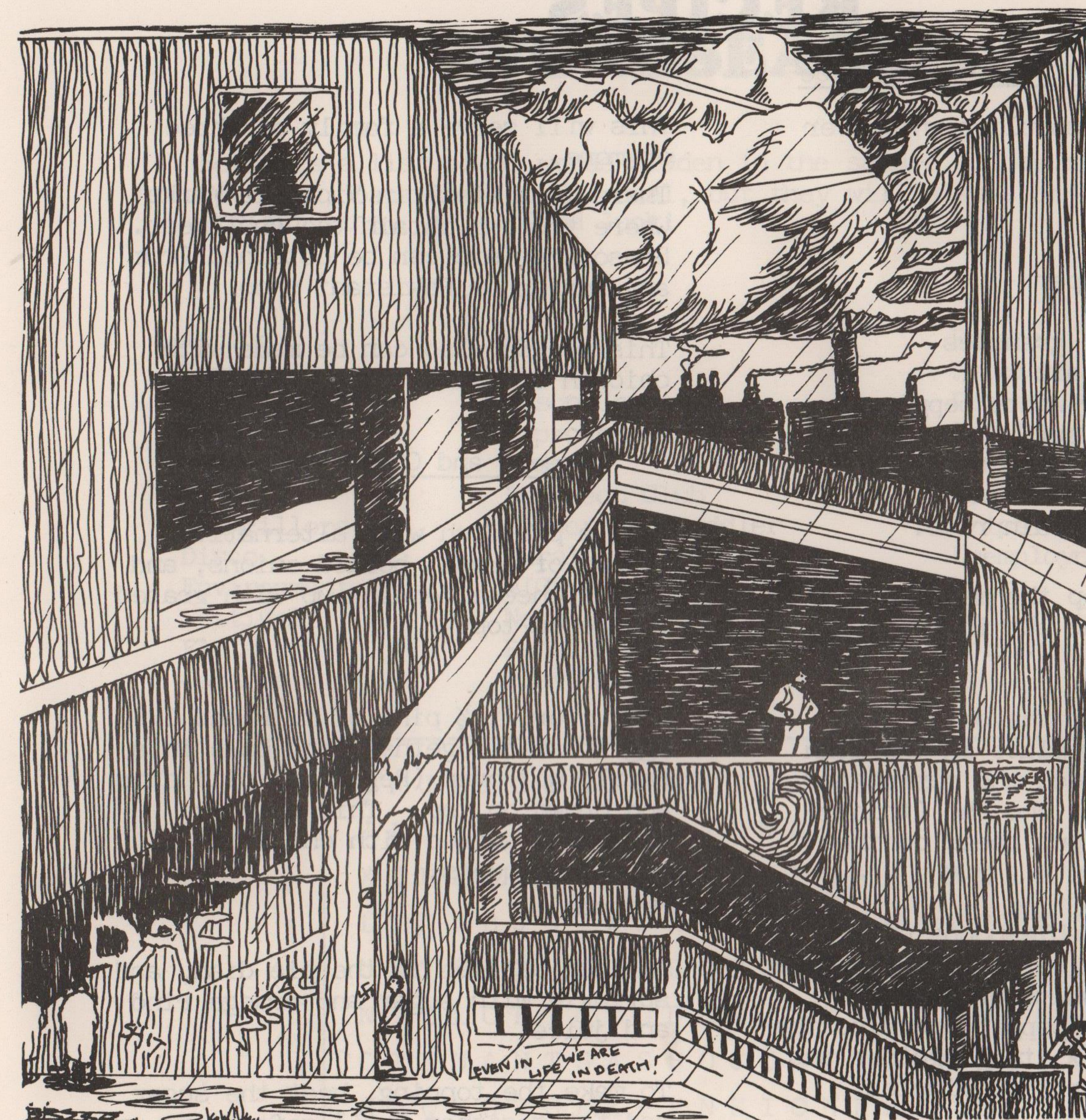
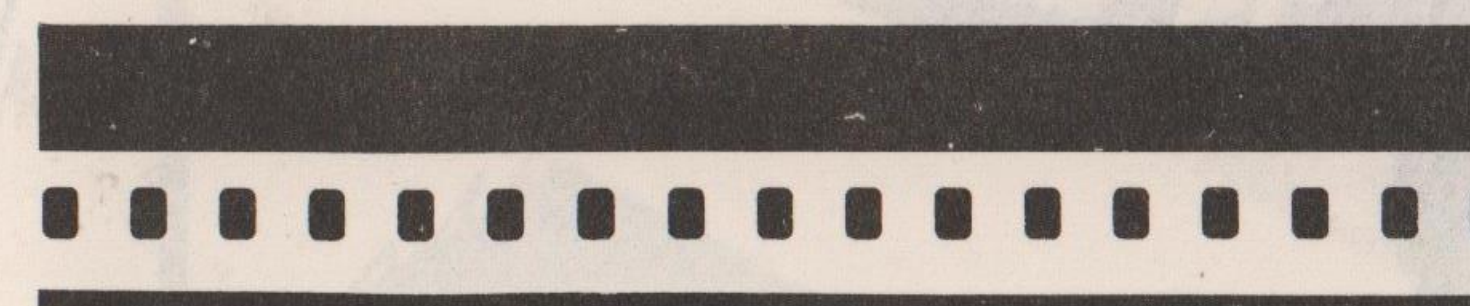
THE MOUSE THAT ROARS?
Flats complex arrowed.....



Police sub-division called Hyson Green.

TACTICS AND STATEMENTS

Cameras have focussed on the complex with supporting dialogue suggesting 10,000 arrests in Hyson Green. For this illusion to be fact there would need to be about 68 tenants in each flat actually committing crimes and being arrested! The reality was that the 10,000 arrests were made in the police sub division called Hyson Green, covering approximately a third of the entire city. These and other facts have been ignored for the apparent purpose of sensationalism. These general examples do not take account of the individual hardship caused to tenants as a result of this kind of cavalier attitude by the media in general, and T.V. in particular.



IMPRESSIONS

OF THE FLATS

BY A PUPIL OF

CLAREMONT

SCHOOL

TURNED INSIDE OUT

From the outside,
We can be proud;
They are thin,
They can but win,
Our easily brought silence
And admiration.

But - Oh but,
From the inside,
They can not hide,
(Although their fosters have tried)
The fact that someone lied,
They aren't the answer to our own
selfishness,
And the easy dream as died.

And you do not see,
Councillors, gentles, all;
Can you not understand,
They are empty,
They have plenty of walls, walk ways,
windows.

But people - None!

Have you ever been in the carpark
zone,
Have you ever been in; I dare you,
alone?

Hah! You would see;
Councillors, gentles, all,
Then you'd understand,
They are empty,
They have plenty of painted walls,
dirty broken glass walk ways,
shattered windows,
Go on,
Venture into the empty flats.

And remember;
Even in life we are in death,
perhaps,
Even in death we are in life?

RECIPES

Curried lamb or goat with rice

3lbs goat leg or shoulder whichever preferred
4oz curry powder
1 onion
1 tomato
1 small green pepper
1 clove garlic or
1 teaspoon garlic granules
pinch of celery salt
pinch of black or white pepper
1 small cabbage leaf
1 small carrot
½lb cho cho
1lb or more long grain rice.

1). Wash and chop the meat into small portions and put into a large dish.

2). Peel and chop the onion. Cut up the tomato and place in the dish with the meat. Peel the carrot and slice it, peel the cho cho (thinly) and slice it and put these on the top of the meat.

3). Then add, 2 tablespoons of salt, a pinch of garlic (or 1 tsp of garlic granules), some white or black pepper, the green pepper and also the curry powder. Mix it altogether and leave to stand for five minutes.

4). Put a casserole with some oil in into the oven No 6 (300 electric). When the oil (or fat) is hot empty the contents of the dish into the pan and let it cook in its own juices for a while turn the oven down to No 3 and let the meat simmer for 2½ - 3 hours depending on how tender you want the meat.

The Rice:

Empty the rice into a saucepan and wash it thoroughly (until water is clear).

Add 1½ pints of warm salted water and put to boil on a high light. Boil for ten minutes at this heat then turn heat right down as low as possible and simmer for 20-25 minutes.

When cooked serve with the curried goat.

This will serve a family of three or more.

There is a stall in Victoria Market where you can obtain the goat meat. Seasonings etc can be obtained from any Indian or Pakistani shop.

This recipe also can be made with chicken or rabbit.

Cheese and Onion Pie

Fill a pie dish with alternative layers of bread, boiled onions, and grated cheese, ending up with grated cheese on top.

Pour over it ½ pint of milk and 1 egg whisked together, and bake in a fairly hot oven (Regulo 6) till nice and brown on top. This dish is delicious served with chips or potato croquets.

Method:

Put the applies in the pie dish, and sprinkle with sugar and orange rind and juice.

To make the topping, beat the sugar and fat together until soft then add the beaten egg and gradually add the flour and milk. Spread over the filling and bake for 45 minutes at gas mark 5 until golden brown. Serve hot sprinkled with a little sugar.

Eve's Pudding

For the Filling:

1lb cooking apples
1oz caster sugar
grated rind and juice of 1 orange

For the topping:

2oz brown sugar
2oz butter or margarine
1 egg beaten
4oz self raising flour
1 tablespoon milk

WORDSEARCH

Below is a list of 35 words hidden in the square. They may be across, up, down, backwards or diagonal, but they will always be in a straight line. Good luck!

Active
Care
Campaign
Committee
Concrete
Council
Councillors
Disco
Environment
Festival
Flats
Garages

Help
Housing
Hyson Green
Improvements
Kids
Luncheon Club
Mother and Toddler
Murals
NICE
Noise
Pensioners
Playscheme

Police
Problems
Project
Supplementary Benefits
Tenants
Tenants Association
Trips
Unemployed
Walks
Welfare Rights
Workshops

C R J F L G Q X C O M M I T T E E Z R T A N K H
J A T I F E N E B Y R A T N E M E L P P U S E O
X Q R Z L V F A N K S G O N P Q A K U B M L X U
L T N E B J O T W D H L Q X E G M Q A T P J K S
U N V B K O R E L D D O T D N A R E H T O M A I
N I S L O F T C T G D H P J S K X Q I F H O G N
C T E N A N T S A S S O C I A T I O N L X T D G
H A Q R G V S P K P E N S I O N E R S A O J D N
E N P S L T I O W E L F A R E R I G H T S I P S
O J M A K Q E T I D E Y O L P M E N U S K U Q R
N N E E R G N O S Y H A D G J E M T E E S V K O
C E N B F K Q X Y E T E R C N O C D S H P Y S L
L P T O J V E H N O F I G V N R A S I L I F T L
U Y N S M E L B O R P E I N S L E G O F R E N I
B U L P F A T I P J L R Z G T H F C N E T B E C
D I S H Q C N O T R O M O I N B J I I K P O M N
T W B V E C F D V N S Q E J A H C B T L I F E U
U S K J L U P X M A F V P B N E T P C F O S V O
D J O C I B Q E W U I X E M E H C S Y A L P O C
K R G F C O N P K T R H Y Q T M W D T O B F R X
P N L S N T Q O C A K A T N G I A P M A C U P A
B T D F U F C A P I S K L A W S D J P Y O S M J
S I A W O R K S H O P S B S K I T A W V K H I C
K Q K T C S X G A R A G E S I U N K T C W U J D

FREE LEGAL AND WELFARE ADVICE

As many as two thirds of the household in the Hyson Green flats complex are on state benefits of one kind or another; about half are one parent families; it is not as unusual as you may think to have problems with your landlord or the housing department and a lot of us haven't been able to understand the law. If you've found yourself in any of these positions or just want to talk something over, then the Legal and Welfare Advice Centre may be able to help you.

At present the centre opens one night a week and is staffed partly by local people and partly by people who have worked in all the above mentioned areas. There is also someone with legal training present at all sessions. Whatever your difficulty, the chances are, there will be somebody who will be able to offer advice or information. If we can't give you the answer there and then, perhaps we can find out, or can tell you who does know.



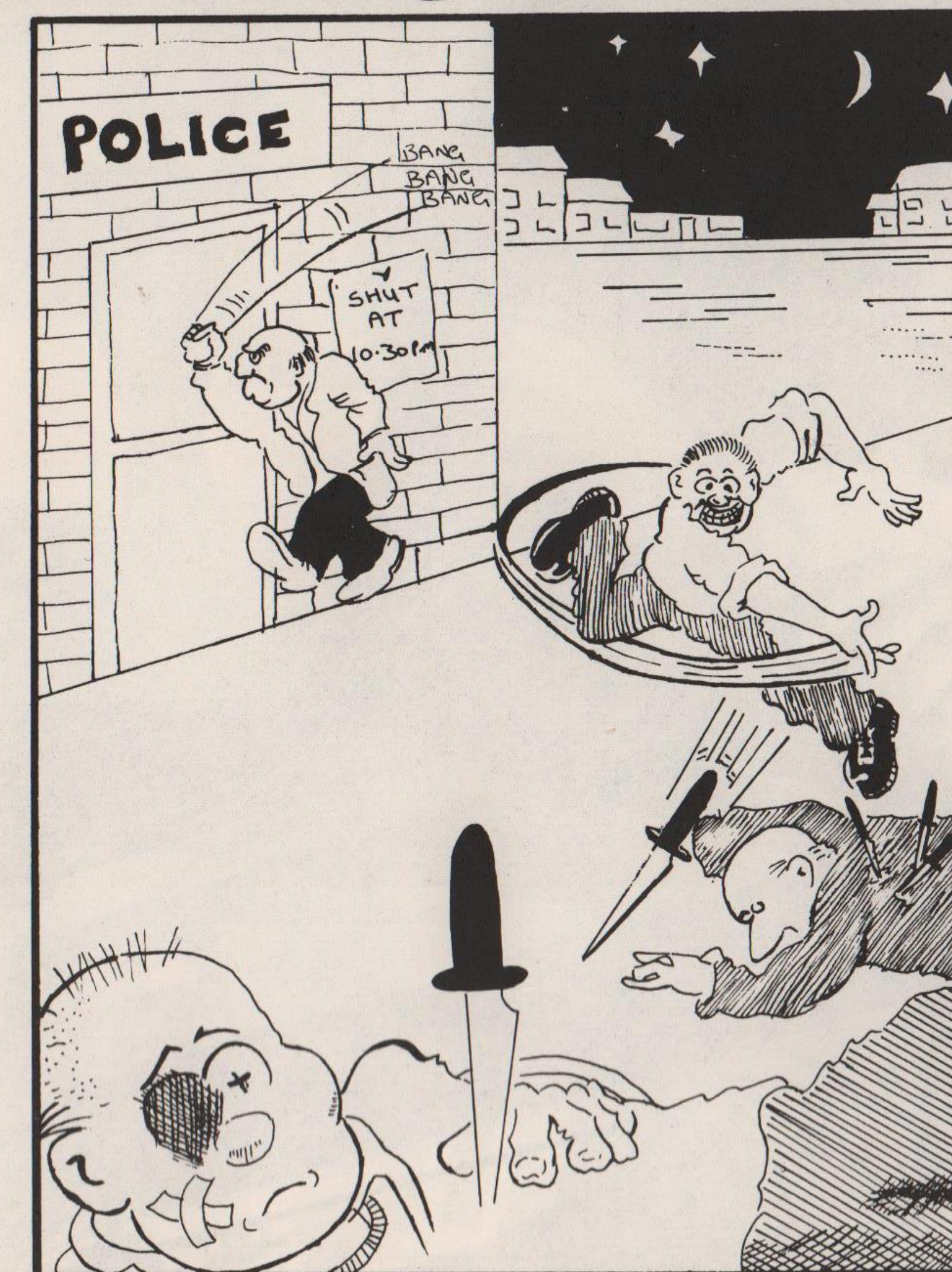
So, if you have a problem, or if perhaps you feel you would like to give advice at the centre then feel free to call in and have a chat.

**6 - 8pm every THURSDAY in the DAY ROOM at the
HYSON GREEN PROBATION OFFICE (behind Cricket
Players pub, Radford Rd)**

*** If you bring your children with you, there will be
play facilities while you talk to the solicitor.**



The Policing Of The Flats



THE BOULEVARD POLICE STATION

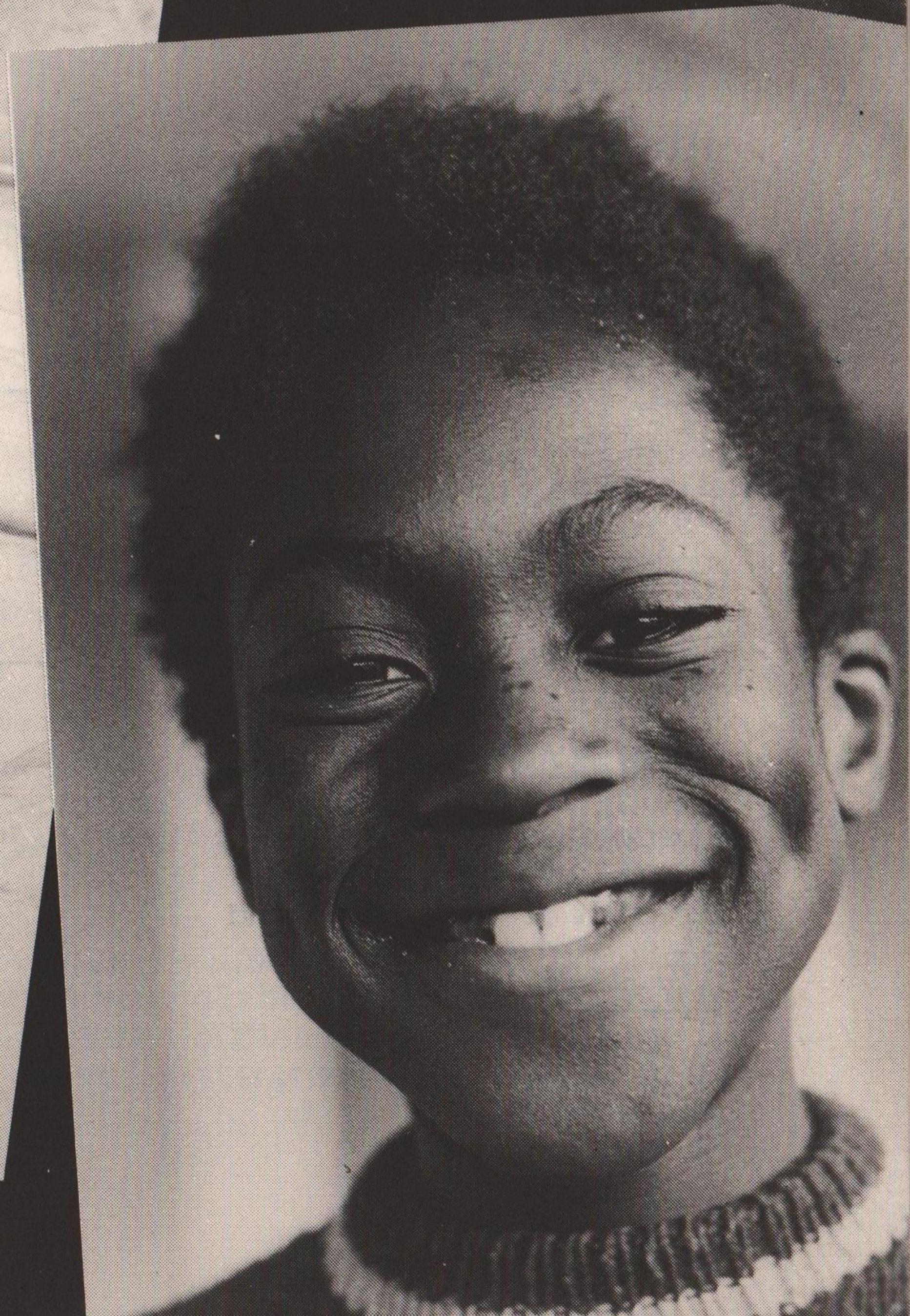
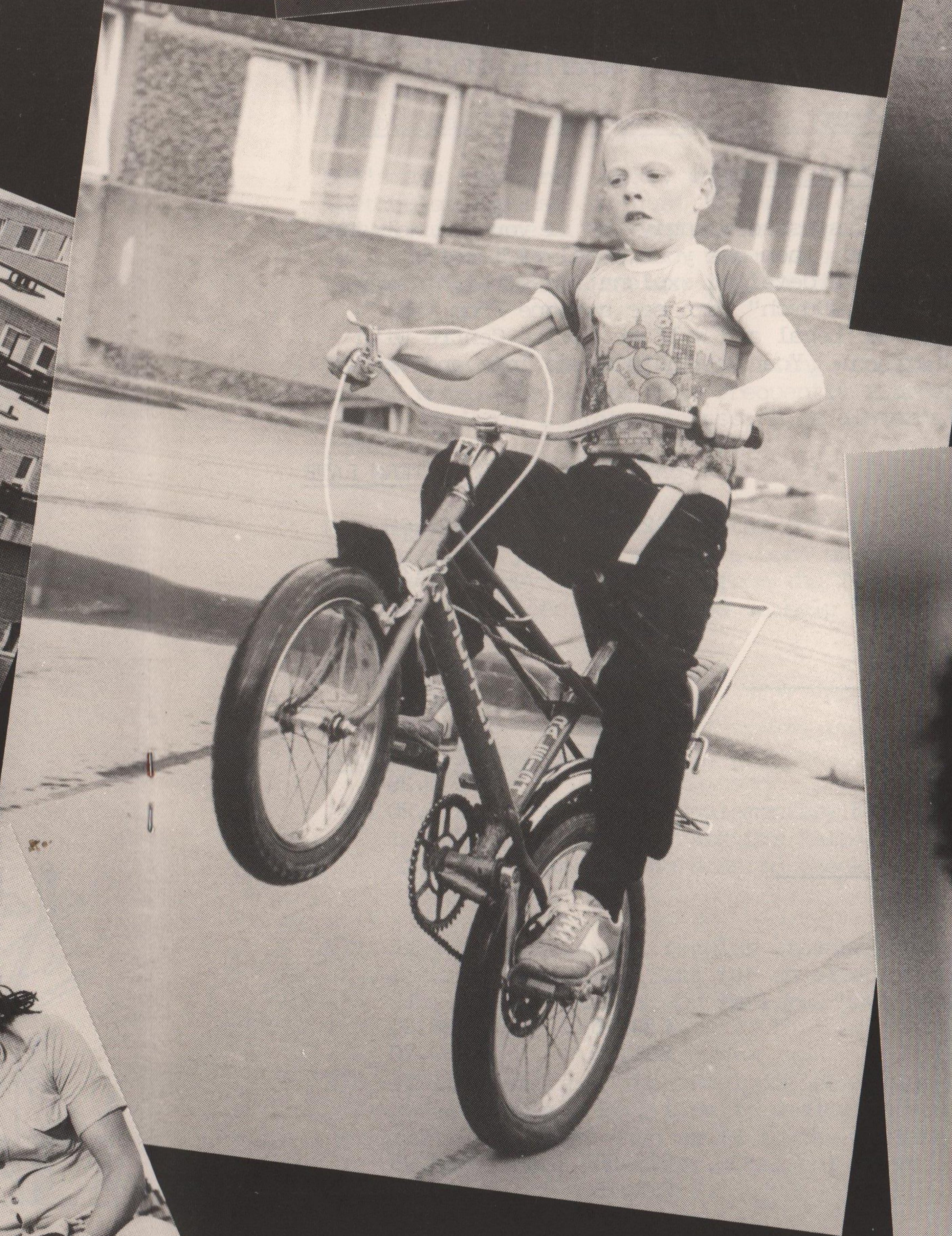
POLICING OF THE FLATS

About two years ago the Tenants Association asked the chief officers of the Hyson Green police sub-division whether policemen could patrol the complex. At that time the police patrolled Radford Road and Noel Street. They very rarely entered the flats complex. The reply from the then Chief Inspector was that he personally walked around the flats every fortnight on a Saturday morning. He also suggested that the kind of crime in the flats didn't need a police presence. Since then, however, there has been two community constables whose beat is the Hyson Green area. Their presence is useful and welcome.

This is the local police station for the area. It closes at about 10.30 p.m. when the pubs shut and potential disturbance starts. The Tenants' Association is concerned about this and has discussed the problem with officers of the police sub-division H.Q. (Hamilton House). They have stated that incidents occurring after 10.30p.m. should be reported directly to Hamilton House (tel number: 622521).

We feel, however, that the local police station should be adequately manned all night and that the response of that station to incidents in the flats could be vastly improved.

As a last statement we are not criticising the police in general. But we are concerned about the role, function and response from the local police station on Gregory Boulevard.



SUPPLEMENTARY BENEFITS

Supplementary Benefit is intended to be the safety net of the Welfare State. Everyone whose income is below a level laid down every year by Parliament is entitled to be topped up to Supplementary Benefit level.

The legal rules relating to Supplementary Benefit are collected together in a book called "The Yellow Book" which you can look at in any DHSS office. But remember many of the rules allow the Supplementary Benefits Offices to use discretion. Nearly all decisions on supplementary benefit claims are taken by the local DHSS office. If you want your case to be looked at again at a higher level within the local office, then you can ask to speak to the supervisor or deputy manager.

It is usually very important in any dealings with supplementary benefits for you to make sure that they know about all the relevant facts. Quite often, a wrong decision is taken because the supplementary benefits official doesn't have enough information.

What to do if you think your benefit is wrong:

If you think your benefit has been assessed wrongly, or if you are not sure how your benefit has been calculated, then ask your local office for "Form A124". They should then send a detailed explanation straight away. If it seems to be written in "Double-Dutch" then see someone from the Tenants Association, or call at the Legal and Welfare Advice Centre with it and ask them to explain it to you. You have nothing to lose and there may be quite a lot to gain.

<u>ORDINARY SCALE</u>	<u>BASIC RATE</u>	<u>LONG TERM RATE</u>
Husband and Wife	£29.70	£37.65
Single Householder	£18.30	£23.70
<u>ANY OTHER PERSON AGED</u>		
18 or over	£14.65	£18.95
16 - 17	£11.25	£11.25
13 - 15	£ 9.35	£ 9.35
11 - 12	£ 7.70	£ 7.70
5 - 10	£ 6.25	£ 6.25
under 5	£ 5.20	£ 5.20

BLIND SCALE

Husband and Wife		
If one of them is blind	£30.95	£38.90
If both of them are blind	£31.75	£39.70

ANY OTHER PERSON AGED

18 or over	£19.55	£24.95
16 - 17	£12.15	£12.15

Persons aged 80 or over receive long term rate plus an extra 25p, the long term rate is paid to those over pensionable age and those others who have been receiving benefit for more than two years without being required to register for work (eg invalids, those looking after invalids and single parents).

Remember on top of these rates you will get:

an addition for housing costs,
possibly extra for heating (The allowance for heating in the flats is generally included in with the housing costs).

But if you receive child benefit, family income supplement, pensions and practically any other national insurance benefit, that amount will be taken from your supplementary benefit.

Exceptional Circumstances Additions (ECA's)

ECA's are regularly weekly additions to benefit, and are paid to cover particular expenses or just to smooth out a problem which is caused by odd circumstances (the central heating allowance for the flats is an ECA). There is no limit to the number of ECA's you can have at any one time, or the amount you can get, or the sort of need you can get covered.

The most common ECA's are for heating, special diets, laundry and help in the home. These are most frequently awarded for health reasons and, though it isn't strictly necessary, a doctor's note will probably help your claim.

But remember ECA's can be granted for any sort of need so, if in doubt claim; and if you feel you have been unreasonably turned down, appeal - there will always be someone from the Tenants Association or the legal and welfare advice centre prepared to help with an appeal!

Things to remember:

- 1). If you are claiming supplementary benefit but don't know how your benefit was assessed, ask for "A124 form". If you don't understand that, ask someone who does to check it through for you.
- 2). If you have unusual regular expenses - especially if they are caused by health problems, ask for an exceptional circumstances addition. If you don't get it and feel you have been treated unfairly, appeal.
- 3). If it seems that the local office is not following the correct policy or is taking a long time to deal with your claim, or you have any other complaint then write to the regional office (address: Block 1, Government Buildings, Chalfont Drive, Nottingham. NG8 3RB).

Exceptional Needs Payments

THE ITEMS ON THE FOLLOWING LIST MAY BE CLAIMED BY ANYONE ON SUPPLEMENTARY BENEFIT WHO DOESN'T HAVE THE NUMBER SHOWN IN BRACKETS AGAINST EACH ITEM. FOR EXAMPLE? IF YOUR CHILD HAS ONLY ONE PAIR OF SHOES THAT FIT, IN GOOD CONDITION? YOU CAN CLAIM FOR ANOTHER PAIR TO MAKE IT UP TO THE 2 SHOWN.

Men's Clothing

Overcoat/Raincoat (1)	Jacket (1)	Trousers (2 pairs)	Shirts (2)
Waistcoat/Sweater (1)	Socks (3 pairs)	Boots/Shoes (2 pairs)	
Under-vests (2)	Under-pants (2)	Nightshirts/Pyjamas (2)	

Women's Clothing

Overcoat/Raincoat (1)	Cardigan/Jacket (1)	Dresses/Skirts (2)
Stockings/Tights (3 pairs)	Shoes (2 pairs)	Petticoats/underslips (2)
Vests (2)	Knickers (2)	Brassieres (2)
Nightdresses (2)		Corsets (1)

Boy's Clothing

Overcoat/Raincoat (1)	Jacket/Wincheater (1)	Trousers (2 pairs)
Sweater (1)	Socks (3 pairs)	Boots/Shoes (2 pairs)
Under-vests (2)	Underpants (2)	Nightshirts/Pyjamas (2)

Girl's Clothing

Overcoat/Raincoat (1)	Cardigan/Jacket (1)	Dresses (2)
Shoes (2 pairs)	Socks/Stockings (3 pairs)	Petticoats/underslips (2)
Vests (2)	Knickers (2)	Nightdresses (2).

Bedding

Blankets (3 per bed in use)	Pillows (1 per person)
Sheets (3 per bed in use)	Pillow cases (2 per person)

YOU CAN ALSO APPLY FOR GRANTS FOR FURNITURE, DECORATIONS, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT (eg for cooking) AND A WHOLE RANGE OF OTHER ITEMS.

THE GOLDEN RULE IS: IF IN DOUBT - APPLY!

The DHSS will often try to tell claimants that they are not allowed to apply for an exceptional needs payment - for instance, because they have not been on supplementary benefit for 6 months, or because the weekly money is supposed to cover all expenses. This is not true: Any claimant has the right to claim for an exceptional needs payment.

The DHSS also uses a price list (not shown here as we don't have an up to date one) to decide how much to pay once it has agreed to make a payment for the above items. You can also appeal against the amount of the grant if you don't think it is enough to cover what it is supposed to. As a rough guide, go by prices in big stores such as Marks and Spencers.

For further information and help, contact the Hyson Green project or the Hyson Green Development Tenants Association at 30, Anstey Walk, Hyson Green flats.

This is not an official claim form or leaflet, it is produced by the Tenants Association.

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT

Unemployment Benefit is a benefit which depends on claimants having paid class 1 national insurance contributions while they have been at work. It is therefore not like supplementary benefit which you can claim as of right (without contributions).

A class 1 contribution is paid on your behalf by your employer.

How much benefit you get

If you have the right number of national insurance contributions you will get a flat rate of £18.50 a week plus:

- * earnings-related supplement on your earnings in the relevant tax year (at the moment this is 6th April 1978 to 5th April 1979)
- * £11.45 per week for your wife (or one other adult dependant)
- * £1.70 a week for each child.

If you do not have the right number of contributions a reduced rate will be paid for you and your wife (or adult dependant) but increases for your children will not be reduced.

But remember: you can apply for supplementary benefit on top of unemployment benefit if your total income is below supplementary benefit level. It is a good idea to claim for supplementary benefit anyway. (Ask for a B.1 form).

Unemployment benefit is not paid for the first three days of unemployment and it lasts for one year only. After that you can claim supplementary benefit. If you then get work for at least 13 weeks you requalify for unemployment benefit.

How do you qualify for benefit?

There are two conditions: you must have paid a certain number of contributions since you first started work and you must have enough contributions paid or credited in the relevant tax year (eg 6th April 1978 - 5th April 1979).

For further information about how your contribution record is worked out you can ask the employment office, 400, Croft Close, Basford, or the Hyson Green Legal and Welfare Advice Centre.

How to claim

It is important to register at a Job Centre (preferably Bulwell Commercial Road Job Centre or, IF you are a school leaver, the city careers office in Burton's Arcade) as soon as possible. You will be given a registered card to take to the local employment office. Try and get there on the first day of unemployment (or even give them advance notice of your unemployment). Benefit for non-claimed days is rarely paid.

To speed up your claim take as much information as possible:

National insurance number, name and full address of last employer, your job, dates of work and even clock number, if you have it.

Disqualification from benefit

- 1). If you are involved in industrial action. If you think this is unfair you can challenge it.
- 2). 6 weeks disqualification for one of three reasons:
 - (a) You lost your job through 'misconduct'
 - (b) You left your job 'voluntarily ... without just cause'.
 - (c) The insurance officer thinks you are unreasonably refusing jobs or training.

These reasons for disqualification can be challenged. There are always two sides to an employer - employee dispute. If you think you have a case and the insurance officer still disqualifies you, you can appeal to the local national insurance tribunal or the national insurance commissioner. The legal and welfare advice centre or H.G.D.T.A. will be able to help you on this.

+++STOP PRESS+++STOP PRESS+++STOP PRESS+++

SOME OF THE INFORMATION IN THE SUPPLEMENTARY BENEFITS SECTION WILL BE CHANGED BY THE GOVERNMENT IN NOVEMBER. EXACT DETAILS ARE NOT YET KNOWN BUT THERE WILL BE CHANGES IN EXCEPTIONAL NEEDS PAYMENTS AND THE SYSTEM OF APPEAL TRIBUNALS.

SO CLAIM NOW. IT MAY SOON BE TOO LATE.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I APPEAL?

1 YOUR APPEAL LETTER.

PUT YOUR POINTS CLEARLY. GET ADVICE IF YOU NEED TO.

DATE _____ YOUR ADDRESS _____

THE MANAGER, SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICE:

I WISH TO APPEAL AGAINST YOUR DECISION _____

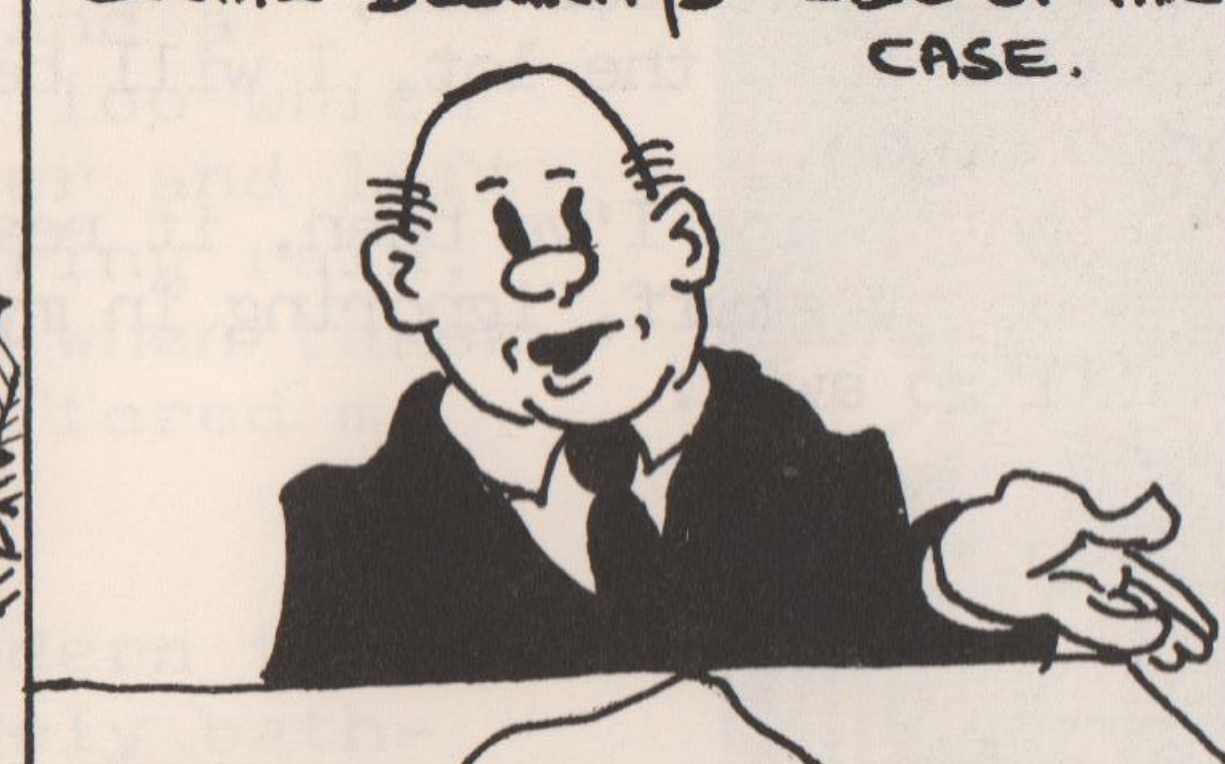
Yours Faithfully _____



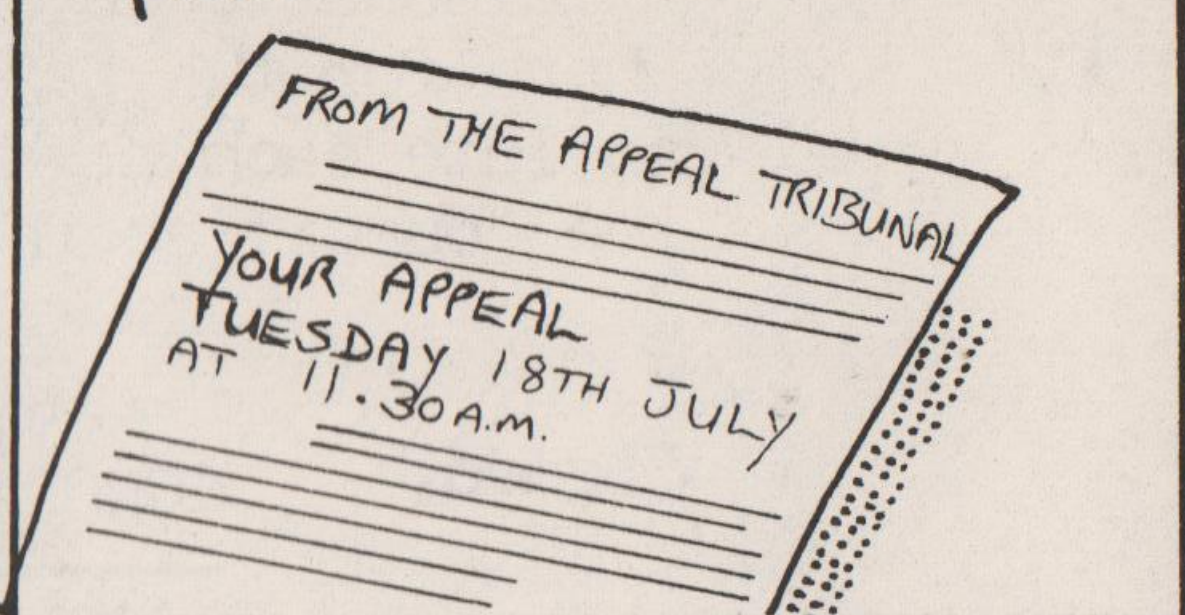
2 THE OFFICIALS CAN CHANGE THE DECISION OR SEND THE APPEAL TO THE APPEAL TRIBUNAL



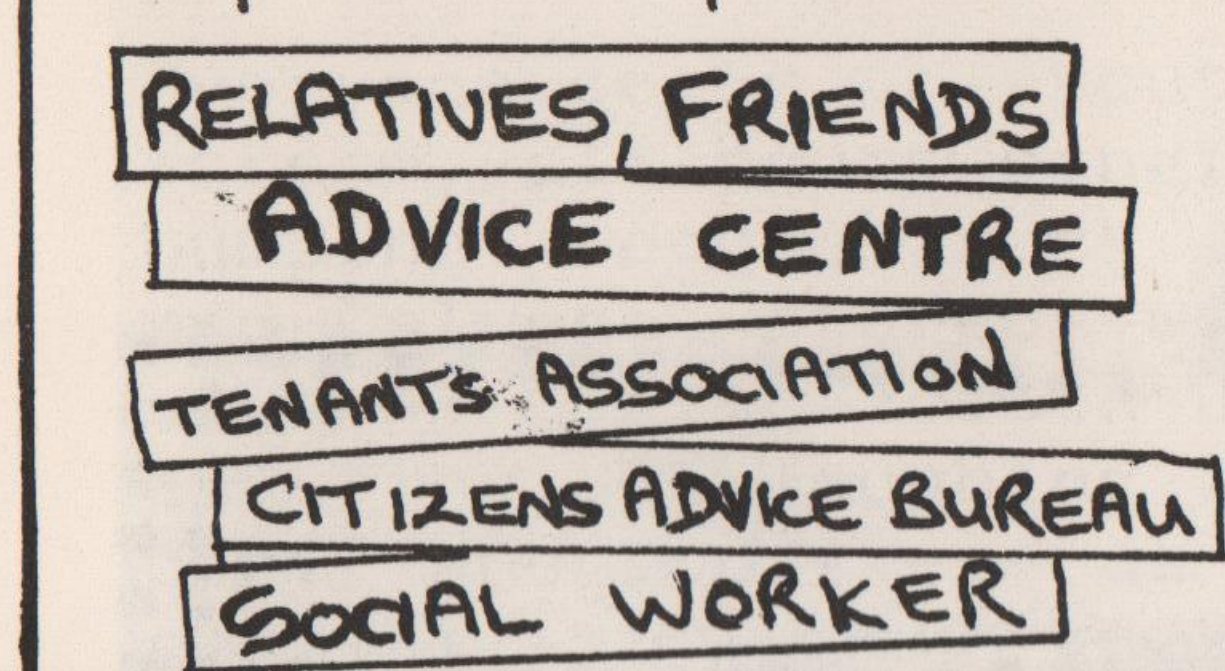
3 THE CLERK WILL WRITE TO YOU WITH A DATE FOR YOU TO ATTEND AND PAPERS FOR YOU TO READ, GIVING THE SOCIAL SECURITY'S SIDE OF THE CASE.



4 IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND ON THE DATE GIVEN EITHER WRITE OR PHONE TO LET THEM KNOW OTHERWISE THE TRIBUNAL WILL GO AHEAD WITHOUT YOU.



5 AT THE TRIBUNAL YOU CAN HAVE UP TO 2 PEOPLE TO SPEAK FOR YOU BUT ALWAYS TRY AND GO YOURSELF TOO.

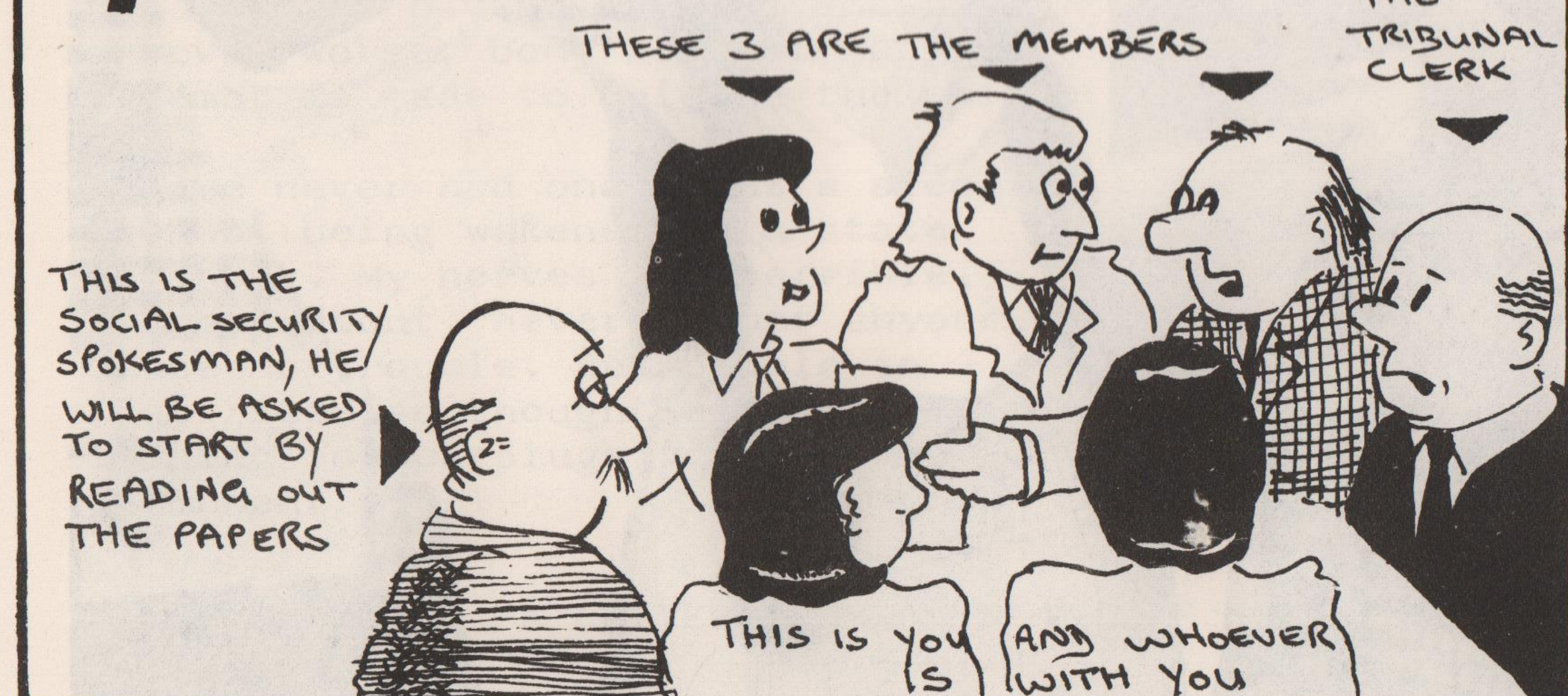


6 ARRIVING AT THE TRIBUNAL...

GO FIRST TO THE WAITING ROOM. THE CLERK WILL COME AND ASK YOUR NAME AND PAY YOU FOR TRAVELLING EXPENSES OR LOSS OF WAGES.



7 IN THE TRIBUNAL



8

AFTERWARDS THEY WILL SEND YOU A REPORT TELLING YOU OF THEIR DECISION

IF YOU ARE UNCLEAR ABOUT ANY POINTS

GET ADVICE!

NOISE

My mother always used to say ignore it it'll go away,
I tried it on my husband first and as things went from bad to worse,
I never tried to sort things out, eventually without a doubt,
my mothers motto worked its spell and now I'm left. Alone to dwell,
I tried it on my neighbours too, as every night they had a do,
from 4.00 a.m. till half past eight. It meant I got to work so late,
that in the end I lost my job, but still stick it out, and now
the councils moved them to a house, and I'm left here, quiet as a mouse,
I do it on the children too, I've seen them smashing windows yes,
tormenting pets, and causing mess,
I've seen the way they taunt old folk, and I agree it's not joke,
so carefully I, each night and day I quote them, so they'll go away,
I'm doing it to the council now, I've read in all the papers how,
they're selling all council houses off,
I know that when they've sold the lot, I will be stuck in what I've got,
a maisonette in Hyson Green,
where for the last eight years I've been, it really isn't good enough,
so late each night I do my stuff, ignoring in my well proved way,
the council so they'll go away.

Signed, IGNORANCE.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

This is from someone who didn't give her or his name and address



ALL I WANT IS TO LIVE IN PEACE AND QUIET.

After a lifetime of living in
appalling housing conditions,
soaking damp walls, mildew, smells,
toadstools repeatedly growing
around skirting boards and a
horrible poky back-yard loo which
froze up every bad winter and left
you drenched in the pouring rain,
running around the yard when taken
short - I was finally offered my
'dream home'.

A spacious, compact, modern flat,
gorgeous hot water, lovely bath-
room and indoor toilet!

But, oh, the price I have to pay
is the noise, noise and still
more NOISE!

Everyone seems to shout and
scream, all hours banging,
bumping, reggae, rock 'n roll
and Calypso, stereos with records
at full blast - often until 5 a.m.
Shouting and laughing and banging
doors and footsteps as the
regular partygoers go home.

Noone dare say anything. We
live in a state of Mafia with
the risk of having windows smashed
or even worse, body blows if any
attempt is made to quieten the noise.

I have never had one night's sleep
without being wakened in a state
of shock. My nerves are terrible,
I creep about, never bother anyone,
cause no trouble. But people in
flats seem so thoughtless. I'm
looking for earplugs to wear
permanently.

A LETTER FROM A TENANT OF HYSON GREEN



CONTACT LIST

Social

Parents and Children - Playgroups

Thursday Drop In, Hyson Green Community Centre, St. Paul's Avenue
Hyson Green, 10.30am - Thursdays.

Tenants Hall Playgroup 9.30 - 12.00am. Tenants Hall on Concourse
Hyson Green Flats Complex.

Day Nurseries

Telephone:

Croft Nursery, St. Peter's Street, Radford	789485
Highfields, 7 Mount Hooton Road	781019
Arboretum Nursery School, Arboretum Street	789190
Independent Street, Radford	702263
Garden Street, Radford	782253
Ashburnham Avenue, Radford	783968

Family Centres

St. Simons, Russell Road
Waterloo Crescent.

Schools

Claremont Comprehensive, Forest Fields	787847
Manning Comprehensive, Gregory Boulevard	786525
Berridge Junior, Berridge Road West	783212
Berridge Infants, Berridge Road West	782947
Scotholme Infants, Beaconsfield Street	783451
Scotholme Junior, Fisher Street	781968
Stanley School, Bradgate Road	783096

Tenants Associations

HGDTA, Thursdays, Probation Office, 7.30pm.
SPARTA, Ron Kennedy, 158 Birkin Avenue
BRAG, Terry Glass, 6 Sophie Road, Hyson Green
Forest Fields, Charles Hall, tel. 787473
GAP, Glenn, Arts and Crafts Centre, tel. 782463

Health, State Benefits and Work

Mary Potter Health Centre, Gregory Boulevard	787824
Family Planning Services	All appointments 50551
State Pensions & Benefits, D.H.S.S., Crown Buildings, David Lane, Basford	789231
Job Centre, Gordon House	49381
Careers Service, Exchange Buildings	863366
N.I.C.E. Employment for young people, 1 Burton Chambers, 42 Cranbrook Street,	581052
Rent and Rate Rebates, City Treasury, Guildhall	78571
Free School Meals and School Clothing, School Welfare offices, Exchange Buildings, Cheapside, Nottingham	48511

Environment and Housing

City Council Housing List and Transfers, King Street. Tel. 411421
All emergency services outside office hours 865261
H.G. Complex Housing Office, 17 Cambourne Walk. Tel. 701091, repairs.
Environmental Health, (noise, annoying dogs etc.) Guildhall, 48571

Environment and Housing (Con't'd)

Getting rid of rubbish, Street cleaning etc. East Croft Depot,
tel. 865261

Pest Control, (Rats, Mice, Fleas Cockroaches etc.)
57561 (between 8.30 - 9.30 a.m., - 1.45 - 2.00 p.m. 4.30 - 4.50 p.m.)
GAS installations accounts emergencies 45555
ELECTRICITY installations accounts emergencies 291151

Support and Advice

Social Services West Area: 56211
Social Services emergency out of office hours: 53318
Gingerbread (Assoc. for one parent families) meet the first Monday in every month at the 'Yorker' Mansfield Road, 7.30 - 10.00p.m. and all other Mondays at The International Community Centre, 61B, Mansfield Road, The secretary is Mr. A. J. Bearman 8, Revelstoke Way, Rise Park, Bestwood, Nottingham.
Parents Anonymous (Problems with children) 62449 6.00p.m. till midnight.
Womens Aid (Violence or harassment by men) 46490
Womens Centre 411475
Rape Crisis Centre 410440 11.06a.m. - 5.00p.m. Monday - Friday
Welfare and Legal Advice, Thursdays 6.00 - 8.00p.m. Probation Office
Professional Advice (Solicitors - Lawyers) Welfare rights Advice provided by people from community
Citizens Advice Bureau 411791 Monday - Friday 10.00a.m. - 5.00p.m. Saturday 10.00 - 12.30 p.m. Free professional Advice from Solicitors/architects/Planners/accountants.
Peoples Centre 412269 (Welfare Advice)
Community Workers, Community Point, Church House, St. Pauls Ave.
Age Concern (Help for elderly people) Woodland Chambers 52a Long Row, 45892
Nottingham Homestart, Friendship for parents of under fives, 608619
DIAL (for disabled in need of advice) 55656 Mon - Fri 2.00 - 4.00.m. Monday evenings 7.30 - 8.30 p.m.
Councillors - MP's etc. (see lists in Libraries, Post Offices etc.)

Leisure, Community Centres, Youth Clubs

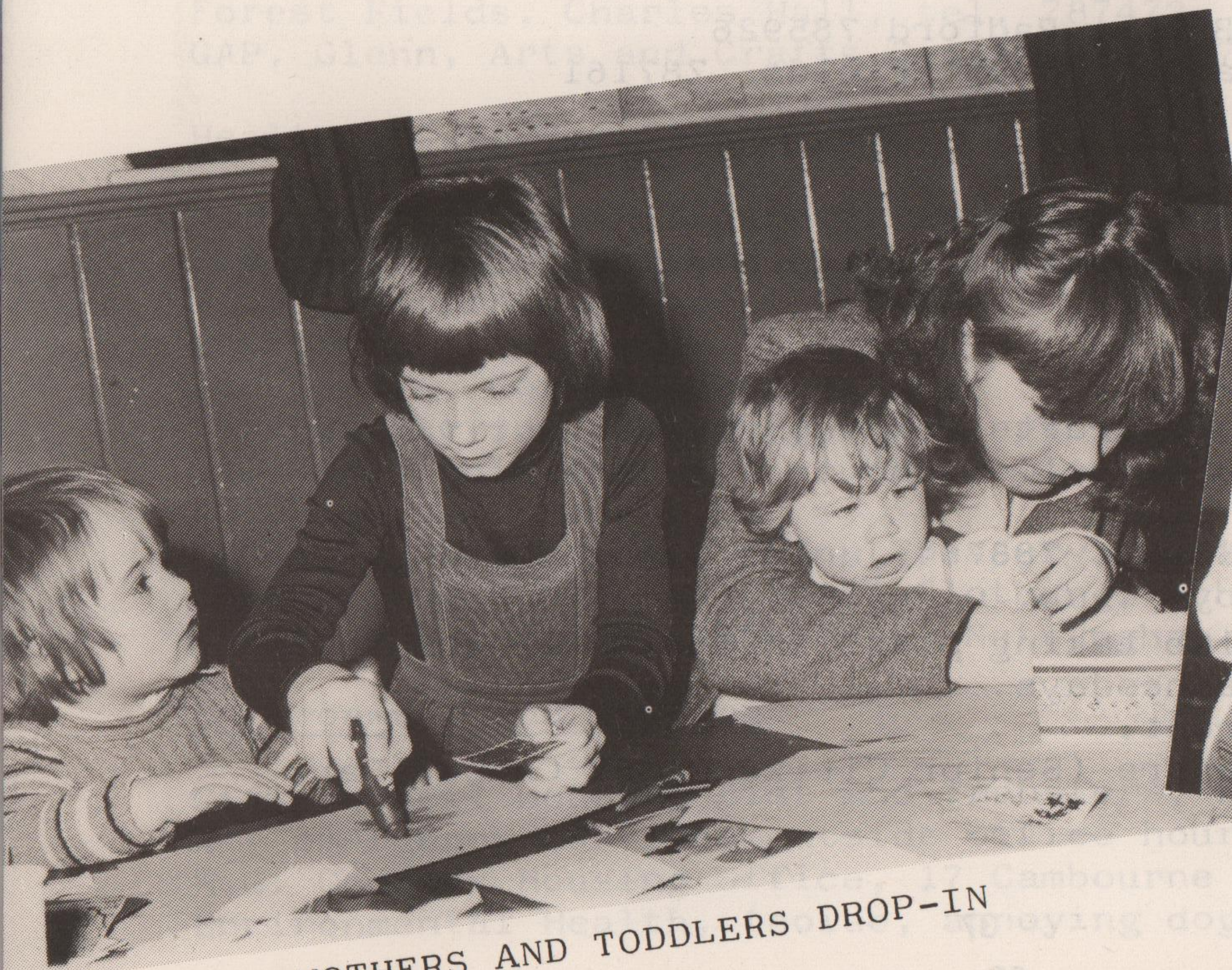
Swimming: Boden Street Baths, Radford 785926
Noel Street Baths, Forest Fields 787161

Judo	}	H.G. Community Centre, St. Pauls Avenue, 783568 Full details of activities available from centre
Karate		
Dancing		
Bingo		
Whist		

Nottingham Community Arts & Crafts Centre, various activities available contact, 782463 or call round to the centre on Gregory Boulevard.
H.G. Boys Club, Terrace Street 783764 Junior Club, Thursdays only 3.30 - 5.30p.m. at the Boys Club.
Wednesday Club. Youth Club taking place in the Hall behind Church House, at 4.00 p.m. on Wednesdays.
Indian Centre, Rawson Street.
Friendship and Leisure Centre (Senior Citizens) 6, Chapel Bar, tel. 45222



SUMMER PLAYScheme DISCO



MOTHERS AND TODDLERS DROP-IN



VIDEO SHOW AT THE INDIAN COMMUNITY CENTRE, RAWSON ST.



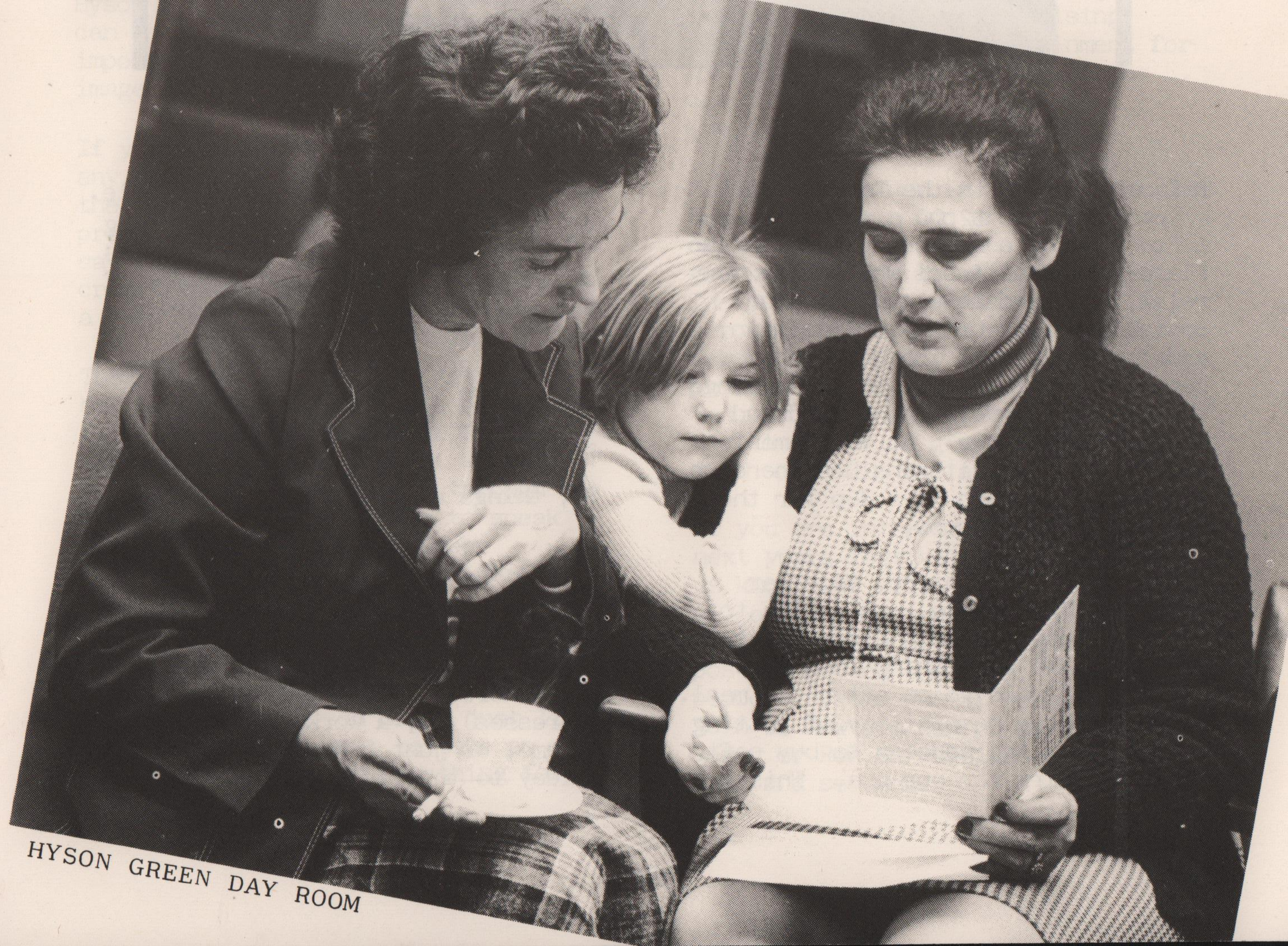
FOOTBALL AT THE YOUTH CLUB



OLD TIME DANCING AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE



OMORO THEATRE GROUP AT THE ARTS AND CRAFTS CENTRE



HYSON GREEN DAY ROOM

LUNCHEON CLUB



This club meets in the Tenants Hall every Friday at 12.00 p.m. Its aim is to provide a meeting place for the flats senior citizens where they can relax, chat and have a meal. The Social Services bring the meals in, and the girls from the NICE scheme, supervised by Margaret Sharp, arrange the tables, serve out the food and organise the bingo. At the moment about 14 senior citizens use the club regularly and each pays 45p for the meal and 15p for subs.

The Tenants Association, together with the NICE scheme, would like to see more people from the flats using the club. We also think that more activities could go on after the meal. There may be a possibility of getting a grant from Age Concern to buy soft folding chairs for our use. This

will make the hall more comfortable. We had a successful Saturday outing to Alton Towers in July for members of the club, helpers and members of the Tenants Association. Another outing, organised by the Hyson Green Neighbourhood and Care Group, took place in August and our Luncheon Club was invited to go along.

So, things are beginning to happen.

If you, or anybody you know, would like to come to the Friday Luncheon club, contact a member of the Tenants Association (see the back of the Koncrete Elephant for names and addresses) or, a worker on the NICE scheme, or just come along on Friday to the Tenants Hall.

Hyson Green Festival 1980

This years Hyson Green Festival went with a bang, at least it did on the Friday night when we had the fire-works display. One of the other things that went bang was the sound equipment for the rock music which blew up when the festival was hit by a thunder storm on the Saturday.

Although the rock music was cancelled for the Saturday, things could have been worse. At one stage the area of the Forest we were using looked like a lake, but this dried up amazingly fast and things got back to normal quite quickly. As far as the rock music was concerned it was decided that the equipment was too wet and dangerous to use, so it was taken away, dried out and we doubled the bill on Sunday.

You might think "What has all this to do with me?" Well, the first thing is, that it is your festival, the second thing is that the festival was designed to help people living in Hyson Green, not only so that you can go and enjoy yourself but more important than that, to change the image of Hyson Green.

If you have lived in Hyson Green for any length of time then you know how the area has been treated by the press and the TV, not very kindly to say the least. They have misquoted crime figures and generally painted a very bad picture of the area.

The Hyson Green Festival Association has managed to dispel some of the fiction that the press and TV have managed to conjure up, but we have only been able to do this through the festival. They are keen to speak to us because the Hyson Green Festival is not just an ordinary festival, it is a community festival.

The festival association is made up of people from Hyson Green just like you. People who want to take an active part in doing something for



their community and meet regularly throughout the year to decide what to put on for that particular years festival. Some members may have a flair for ideas or may want to take a more active part such as organising children's events or organising some other form of entertainment for the general public. Whatever the case, everyone can contribute something towards the festival.

Money, well money is always a problem but as we are a non profit making organisation we can apply for grants from the local authorities. This year in fact we managed to scrounge £1600.00 plus we raised a few hundred by our own efforts. Any profits made by the festival would be used for things like providing a social centre or giving money to youth clubs in the area.

If you are interested in helping with next years festival then please let us know. We will try to publicise all our meetings either through the press or radio or you might see posters giving the date, time and place. By the way if you want to join us now you can phone either Jerry or Ron on 787813 and we will come and see you.

RENT PAYMENT AT POST OFFICE

This was designed to indicate response to the implementation of a Post Office rent collection system based upon the Giro method used in other areas of the city. The survey was conducted over a period of months and the figures quoted EMPTY dwellings (variable over such a period) is likely to be an underestimate of the position.

This was a 100% survey (593 dwellings). Our figures show the number of flats from which we elicited a response (411), with the difference made up of our estimate of EMPTY dwellings plus those repeatedly canvassed without avail.

- (a) Replies from: 411
- (b) Empty: 41
- (c) No Answer: 141

Of the 411 replies:

YES (in favour) - 325 (79.2%)
 NO (against) - 35 (8.5%)
 Don't Know - 13 (3.1%)
 Not Interested - 5 (1.2%)
 Other pay method - 5 (1.2%)
 Rent Collector - 28 (6.8%)

On a straight YES-NO basis (325+35) over 90% were in favour and under 10% of tenants were against a Post Office collection system. Some 90% of tenants nominated GREGORY BOULEVARD POST OFFICE as their first choice.

Response from Braidwood Court to this survey was poor and noting the general age and circumstances of the residents the Tenants Association feel that the block should be treated as a special exception in this matter. Also, those tenants in the rest of the complex who want to carry on using the rent collector should be allowed to do so.

THE QUARREL

The angry words hang in the air,
 The words which cannot be unsaid,
 Forgive me please I know I'm wrong.
 Shouts silently within my head.
 And yet, I cannot say aloud,
 The words to heal the widening breach.
 As every second passes by,
 I see you slipping from my reach.
 Your face, so angry - stiff and cold,
 Remote - as frosty winter's day,
 I try to smile - to bring you back,
 With icy calm you turn away.
 And then with pain I realise,
 You do not care the way I do.
 Your feelings are so deep inside,
 A shell has formed right over you.
 How can I bridge this gulf of pride?
 How can I make you see?
 In spite of all my foolish words,
 You are everything to me.

VICKY CHAMBERS

Hyson Green Probation Service

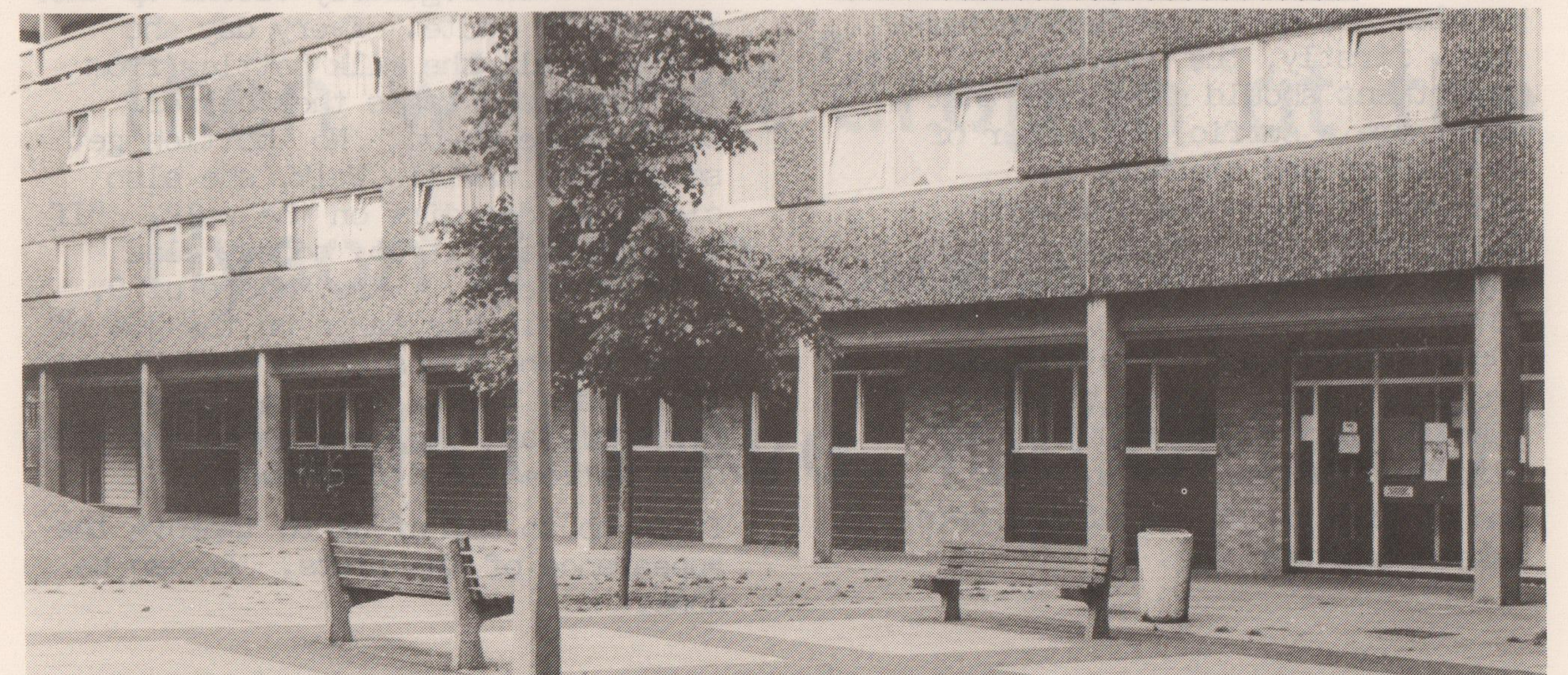
MAFIA KINDERGARTEN FLATS 'TOUGHEST OUTSIDE LONDON'

We are all familiar with the sort of headlines that appeared in the press about Hyson Green a year or two ago. People seemed only too happy to paint as bad a picture as possible of the area; not only bad but often misleading and inaccurate. One of the favourite topics of the media was the amount of crime that was committed. Unfortunately crime figures for a much larger area were used by at least one national newspaper to justify the label of Hyson Green (and the flats in particular) as one of the worst areas for crime in the country. Of course it would be stupid to suggest that crime does not happen in Hyson Green, because it does. But crime occurs in a great many places where a lot of people live in a fairly small area as they do here. Crime occurs particularly where unemployment is high and a lot of the people who probation officers are involved with in Hyson Green are out of work. It's too simple to try and explain the cause of crime just as a result of a person's 'badness'. Crime is also to do with opportunity, with how much people have to lose (or not), with how satisfied people are with where they live, with their families, neighbours and a host of other things.

Some things have changed in Hyson Green. A lot of individuals and groups have worked hard to try and improve the area and its image. The local probation officers have tried to play their part too. We have talked to a lot of local people in order to find out what people who actually live in the area really think of the place and from those discussions we have tried to provide some services which were lacking eg the dayroom and advice centre, but we want to do more - we want to make this probation office MORE ACCOUNTABLE TO THE RESIDENTS OF HYSON GREEN. We want to hear what YOU think the probation officers here should be doing and the ways in which we can be of assistance to you and the area. So do TELL US - ring us at 700481, write to 148 Radford Road or call in and see us. The office is underneath Forest Walk, between Barclays and the Cricketers. We'd like to hear from YOU.

We hope to set up a meeting for local people in the near future when we can tell you more about what probation officers in the Hyson Green area are doing and ask you what you would like to see happening. WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED?

Hyson Green Probation Office



Taking Care

Caretaking and Cleaning Staff on Hyson Green.

When we are fully staffed there are three full time caretakers, one full time cleaner and three part time cleaners working on the Hyson Green Complex, which includes the main flats at Pleasant Court and Braidwood Court.

Generally they are responsible for their own areas, but in times of sickness or holiday they cover for each other. They are responsible for keeping the complex clean and free from rubbish and generally keeping an eye on things.

As you will know there is more than enough work to keep them busy and you can help in many ways. For example, make sure all your rubbish goes down the chute and not left at the top for children and dogs to spread around the estate. If you have any large items of rubbish that will not go down the chute see me or a caretaker and we will advise you of the best way to dispose of it.

The cleaners and caretakers do not clean the stairs leading to your front door; you should do this yourself, taking it in turn with your neighbour if possible.

The caretaking staff do not have any responsibility for repairs. Obviously in an emergency they will help if they can, but do not expect them to be master craftsmen! They will take messages about repairs but it is better to try and contact me personally so that I can assess the problem properly and ask you any questions about the repair needed.

Remember, if you can co-operate with the caretakers and cleaners then the Hyson Green Complex should improve its appearance.



Jeanette Clayton, Housing Officer.

Editors' Comments

The amount of rubbish around the flats has increased in recent years. We think that this problem has to be tackled in two ways, firstly, the housing department should make sure that there are a sufficient number of caretakers and cleaners to adequately clean the walkways, chute areas concourses and stairwells. Secondly, it is important that tenants themselves care for their surroundings, use the chutes properly, and it would help, if, rubbish wasn't thrown out of the windows. If you have a large amount of rubbish one of the caretakers can help you.

Two tenants are already helping in a big way, Mrs. Kimuyu of 11, Saville Walk regularly cleans up the top of the chute. Every day she collects all the milk bottles from the boxes and takes them herself back to the Co-op. No bottles get smashed on Saville Walk, she also cleans up dog dirt on the walk. "If I don't clean it up, nobody else will" she says. Mrs. Moore of 9, Terrace Walk has taken on the job of cleaning the steps of Terrace Street of Terrace Walk. This she does regularly and the tenants on the walk have notice the difference.

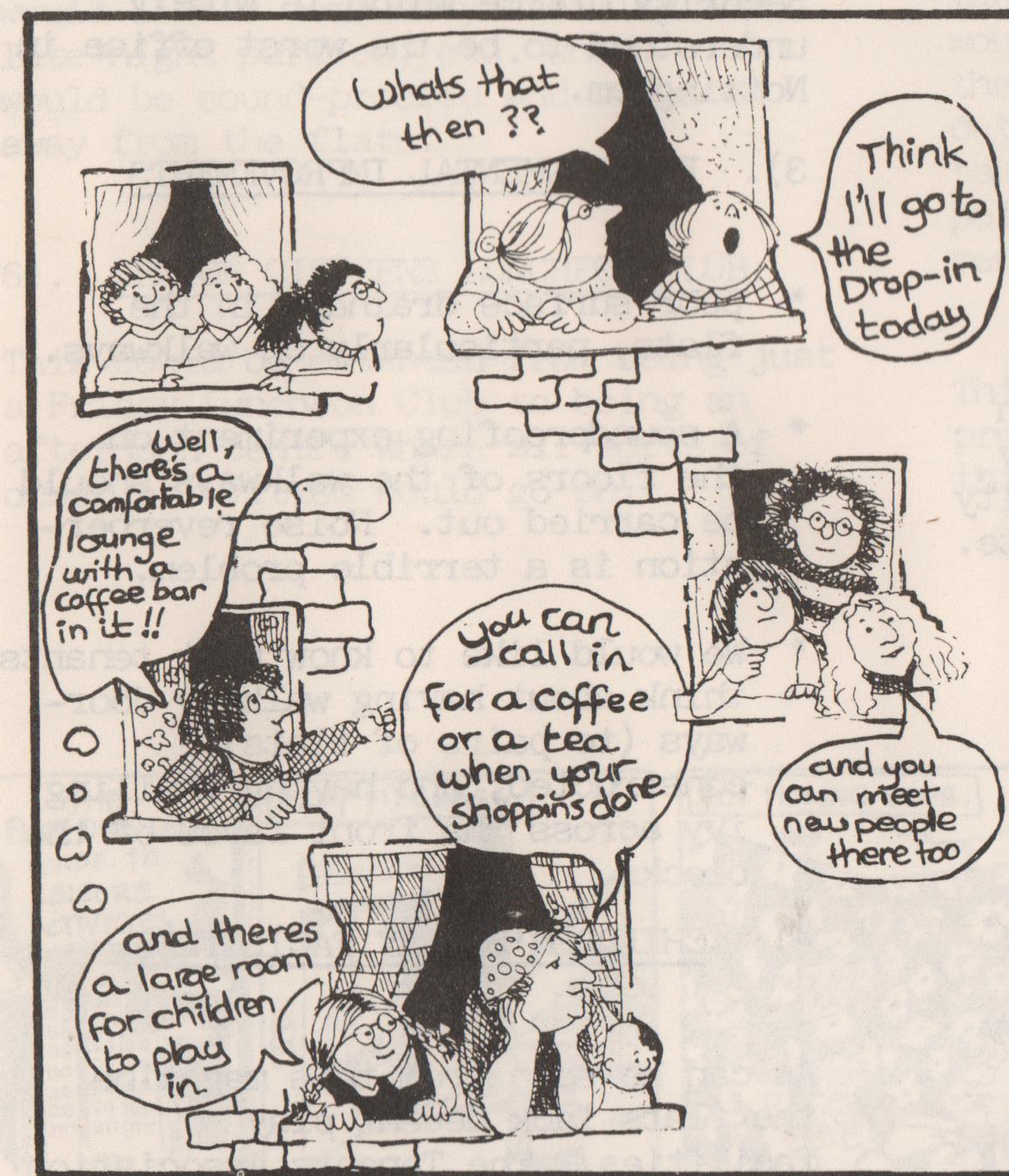
It is up to all of us to improve the appearance of the flats. It can be done.

DROP IN

THURSDAY

for women and kids

DO YOU LIKE:—



- ★ meeting others
- ★ having a cuppa
- ★ having a break from the kids
- ★ craft activities
- ★ advice if needed

Then why not 'drop in' at the
Hyson Green COMMUNITY CENTRE
St Pauls Ave, 10.00-12.00

THE FUTURE

There are a wide range of issues that the Tenants' Association will be concerned with in the future. We have included in the list below the issues that we regard as most important but there is no doubt that, in the future, new demands, new problems and new ideas from you, the tenants, will considerably alter this picture.

1). A TENANTS ASSOCIATION FLAT

Tenants Association work has been difficult because of not having a central office and meeting place in the flats complex. We have already had an offer from the Local Authority for a flat to rent at a special rate. Now we are waiting to get money to equip and run it.

How will we use it?

- * It will be in the complex and therefore closer and better known to tenants.
- * It will be open all day and every day to ALL tenants with any problems that they might have. We don't see it as necessarily sorting out problems for tenants but rather helping people to see and understand how they can solve their own problems.
- * Koncrete Elephant, leaflets and newsletters will be produced there. And for that, we will need a duplicator.
- * The flat will serve as a meeting place for the Tenants Association and for social functions of all kinds.

2). A HYSON GREEN ADVICE CENTRE

This could make an important contribution to Hyson Green generally, and the flats in particular. Amongst other things such an advice centre could counter-balance the problems that claimants have with the David Lane Social Security office which is widely understood to be the worst office in Nottingham.

3). ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS

- * poor surface drainage in the flats, particularly on walkways.
- * A soundproofing experiment on the floors of the walkways should be carried out. Noise reverberation is a terrible problem.
- * We would like to know what tenants think about having walkway doorways (to pairs of flats) constructed, and having trailing ivy across the front faces of the blocks.

4). CHILDREN'S PLAY FACILITIES

As can be seen from this magazine, the flats lack decent play facilities. The Tenants Association would like a discussion on the following three proposals to do something about it:

- (a) to charge Housing Department allocation policy so that all families with young children go to downstairs flats (with access to open, but protected space);
- (b) double window-glazing on the outside of those flats facing newly-created play areas;
- (c) enclosed play areas.

Contd...

As you may have read, the Tenants Association is planning a 1981 Summer Playscheme which will include a camping holiday in Wales.

5). SOUND PROOFED BUILDING FOR LATE-NIGHT PARTIES

Disturbance from frequent and repeated late-night parties is a problem. We would like a community facility for late-night parties, etc. which would be sound-proofed and situated away from the flats.

6). SENIOR CITIZENS LUNCHEON CLUB

This could be extended from being just a Friday Luncheon Club to being an afternoon centre where all sorts of other activities could go on.

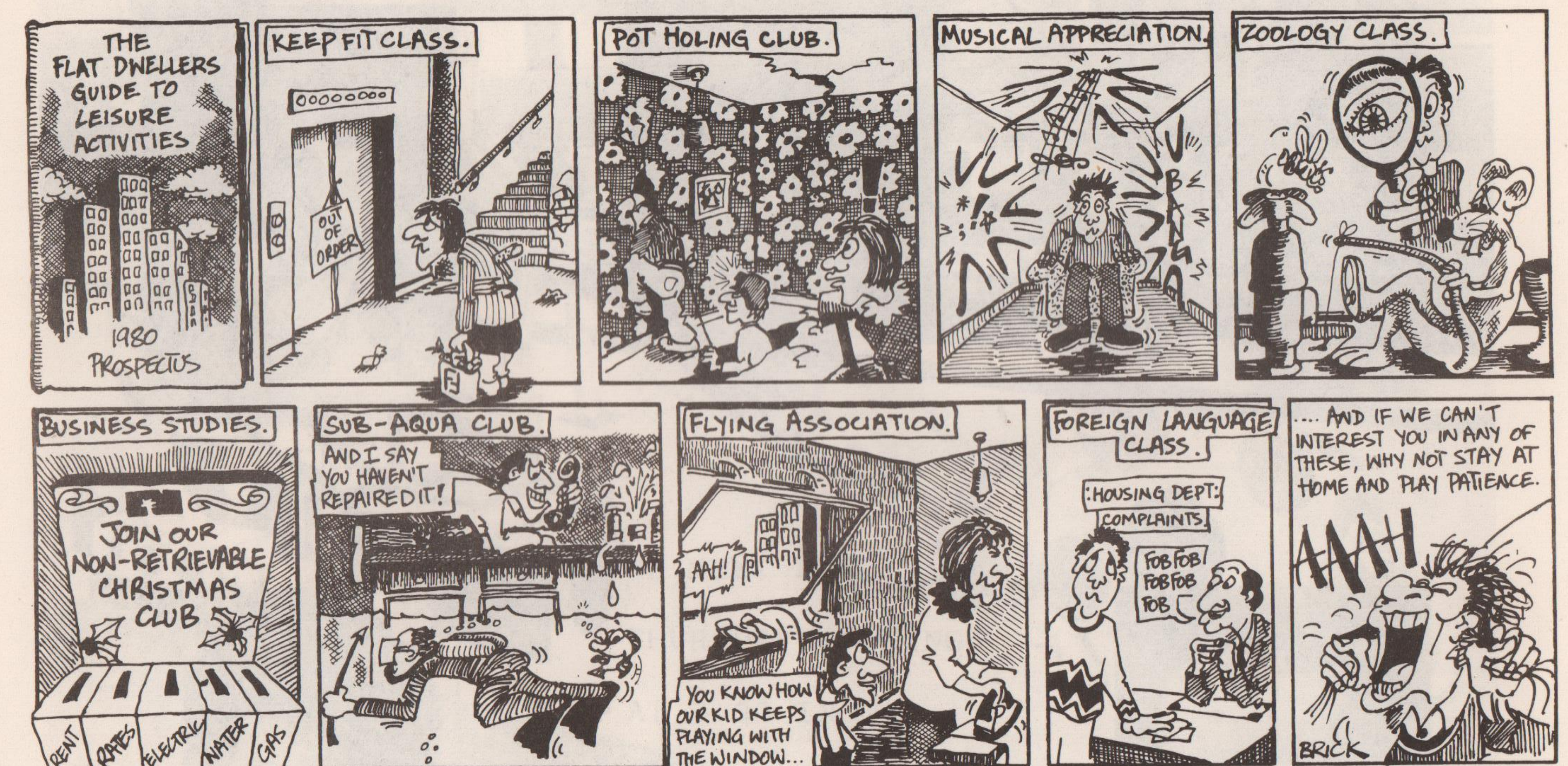
7). BOULEVARD POLICE STATION

When the new local police station is completed we would like to see the old building converted into a Day Nursery to service the area in general, and workshop employees in particular.

8). THE FUTURE FUTURE

In the very long term how about looking at the possibility of tenant self-management of the complex. This would mean tenants themselves having their own maintenance budget, determining rent levels, hiring care-takers, controlling allocation policy, applying for housing improvement money.

This is only an idea and whether we proceed with it depends on what you think.



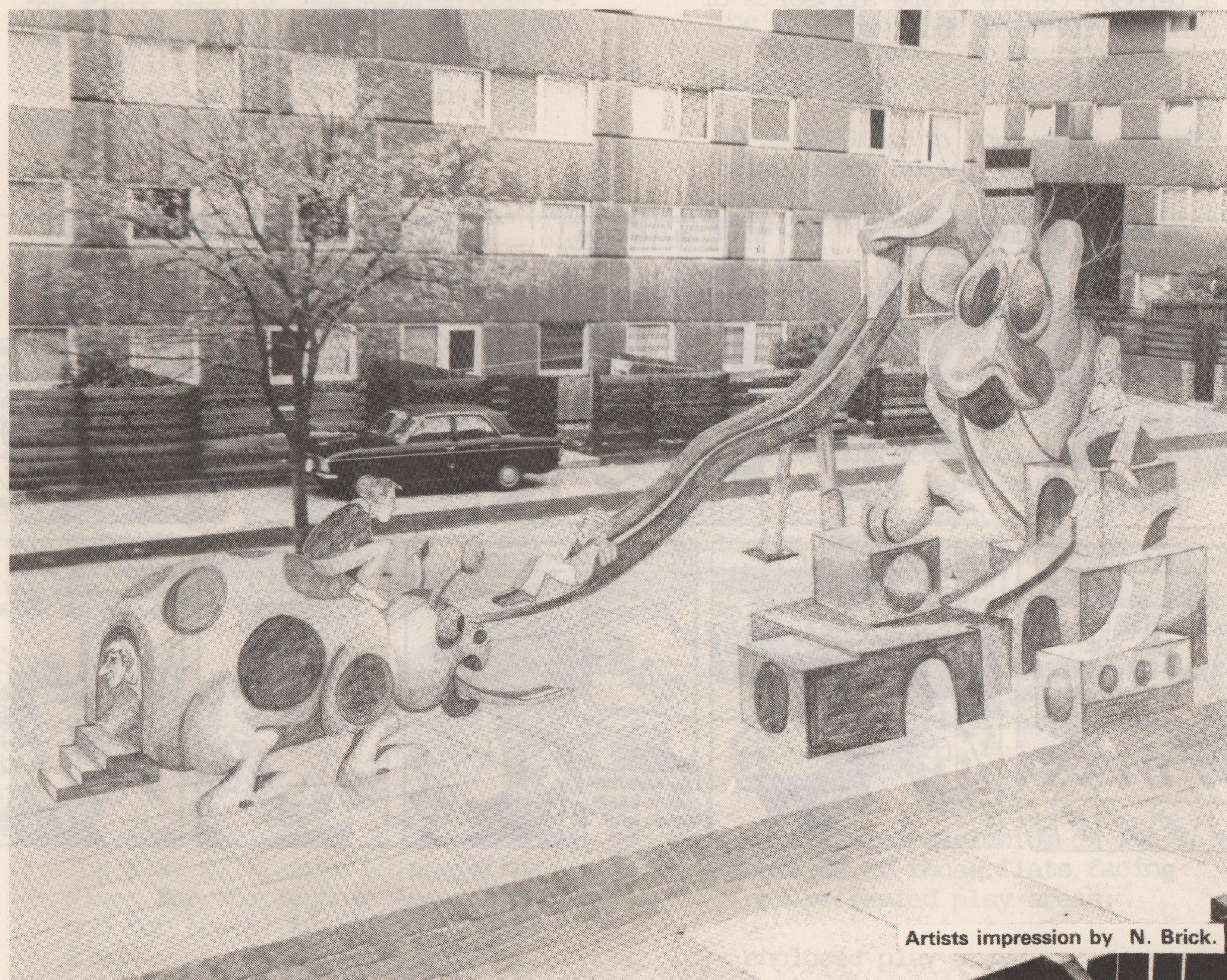
Future Play



Is this a good enough playspace for over 400 kids?

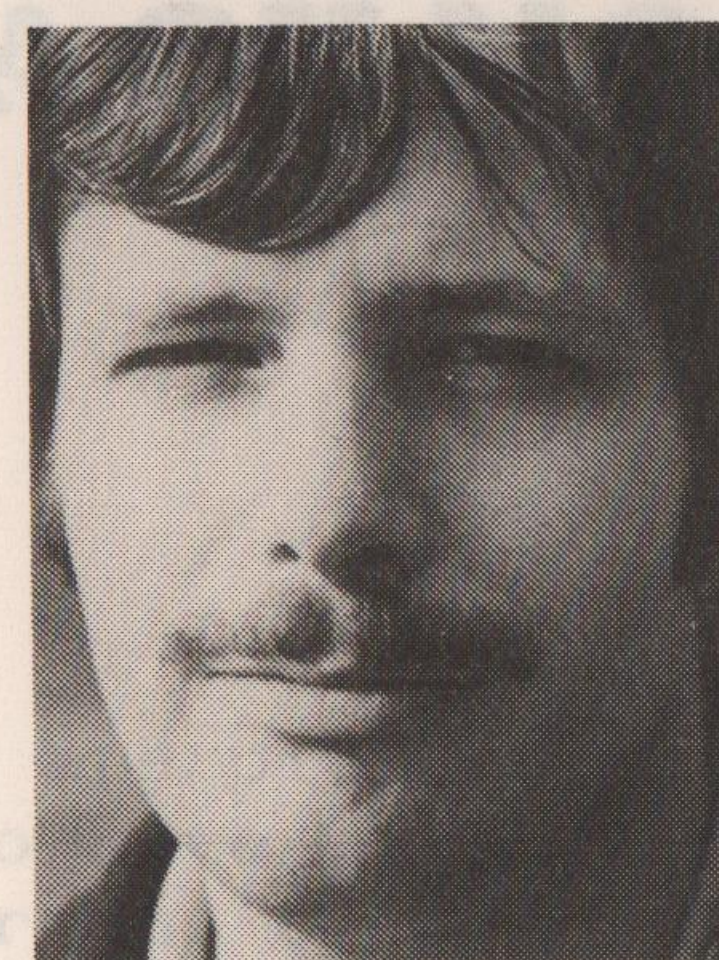


Why shouldn't this empty space look like this.....

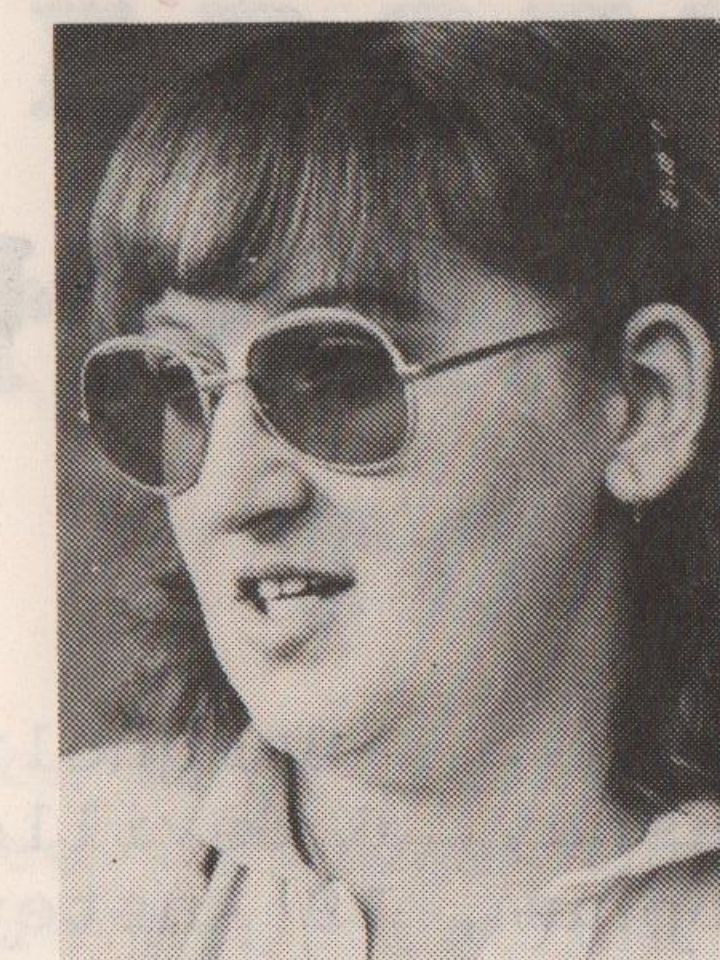


Artists impression by N. Brick.

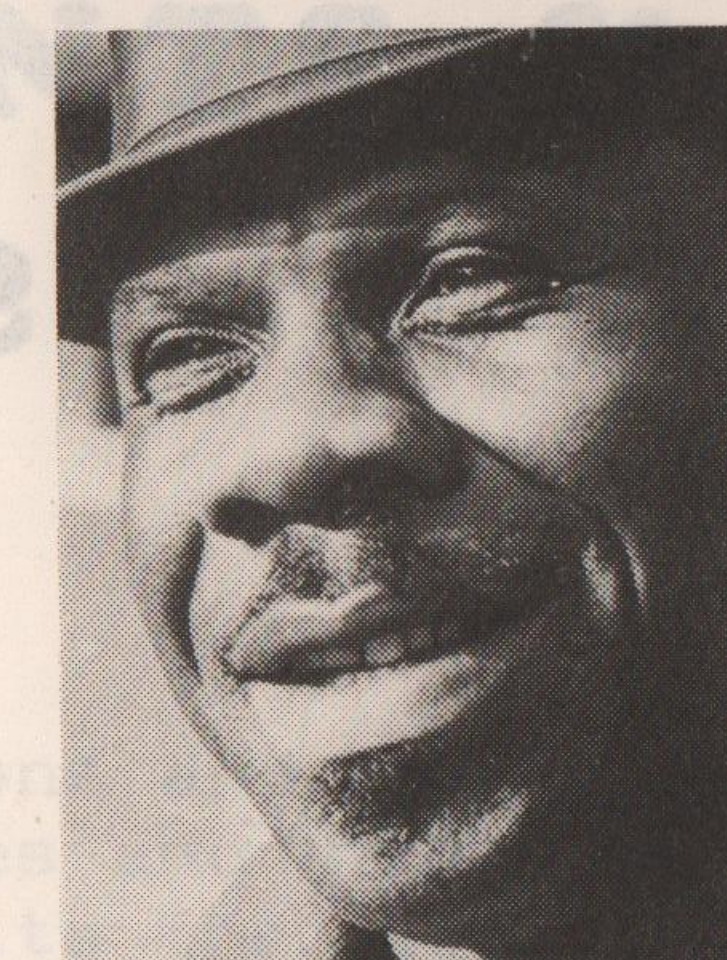
TENANTS ASSOCIATION MEMBERS



ROBIN



CHRIS



LOGAN



KATH



JOHN



SELVIN



VICKY



CARMEN

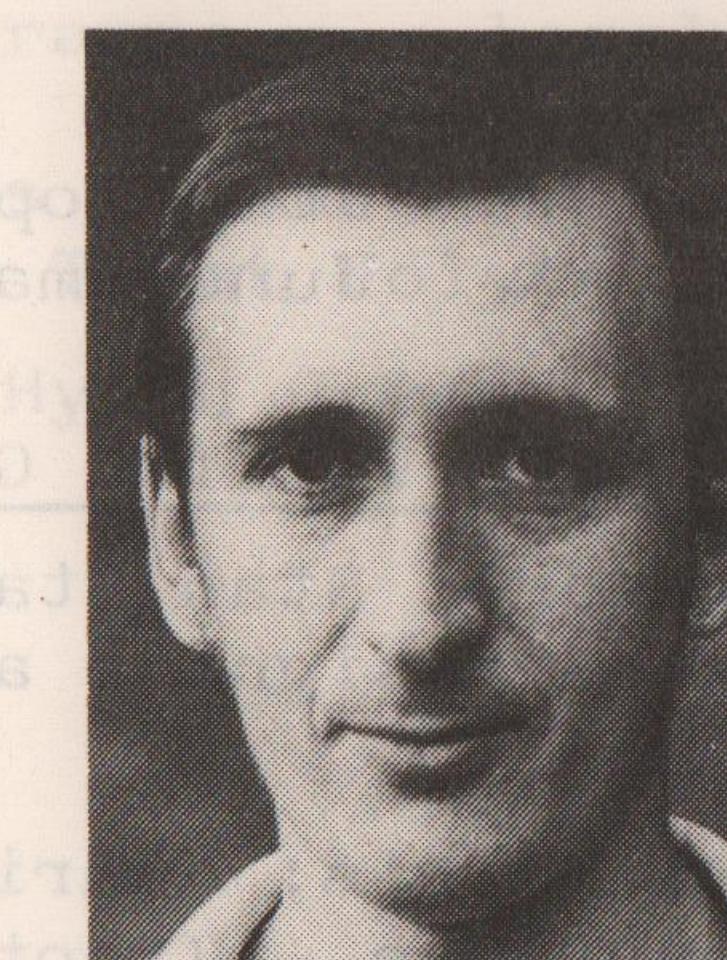


JUNE



ALICE

WE MEET EVERY
THURSDAY EVENING
AT 7.30 IN
THE PROBATION
OFFICE. YOU ARE
WELCOME TO COME
ALONG.



JOHN

MAIN COMMITTEE &

SUB GROUPS

CHAIRMAN: Carl Harris, 1 Bergholt Walk.
VICE CHAIRMEN: Logan Bushay, 6 Saville Walk,
Chris Topham, 19 Anstey Walk.
TREASURER: Chris Topham, 19 Anstey Walk.
SECRETARY: Vicky Chambers, 15 Archer Walk.
ASST. SECRETARY: Sharon Wright, 13 Archer Walk.
PUBLICITY OFFICER: Kath Black, 20 Forest Walk.

Carl Harris,	Logan Bushay,
Chris Topham,	Vicky Chambers,
Sharon Wright,	Kath Black,
Robin Robinson,	Robert Morrison,
Selvin Bailey,	Lesley Davies,
June Small,	Lennie Morrison,
Carmen Baker,	Lesley Robinson,
Tony Graham,	John Topham,
John Birdsall	Alice, Lilian

Honorary Members: Jane Goddard, Bryan Moore, Stan Starkey

SUB GROUPS:

BLACK WORKING PARTY

Convenor: Selvin Bailey, 20 Forest Walk.
Secretary: Kath Black, 20 Forest Walk.
Tony Graham; Robert Morrison; Lesley Davies;
Lennie Morrison; Lesley Robinson.

KONCRETE ELEPHANT

Convenor: Vicky Chambers, 15 Archer Walk.
John Birdsall; Jane Goddard; Logan Bushay;
Robin Robinson; Stan Starkey.

LUNCHEON CLUB:

Convenor: Chris Topham;
Alice

INFORMAL VISITING GROUP:

June Small & Logan Bushay;

PLAY GROUPS:

Convenor: John Topham;
June Small

WELFARE RIGHTS:

Carmen Baker;

WORKSHOPS WORKING GROUP c/o Church House, St. Paul's Avenue

Convenor: Stan Starkey;
Manager designate and Publicity Officer to the project: Brian Sweet;

Carl Harris; Chris Topham; Selvin Bailey; Robin Robinson;
Bryan Moore - Trent Polytechnic; Logan Bushay

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & THANKS TO

We are pleased to reproduce here a list of persons and agencies who have in some way helped to shape the fortunes and share the burdens of the work of this association. Despite the many names and designations here the list is not exhaustive and it needs to be said that there have been many others who aided us, but which space prevents mention of. To all here and to those we cannot mention - THANK YOU.

Nottingham Arts & Crafts Centre - Action Resource Centre - Nottingham Arrow - Nottingham Adventure Playground Association Age Concern - Broadmarsh Shopping Centre Management and Staff Bodill & Sons Ltd. (esp. Stewart Bodill and site foreman Bill Pyket and his team) - BBC Radio Nottingham (esp. John Hess) - Nottingham Council for Voluntary Services - Nottingham Community Projects (esp. the Director and Employment Unit staff) - Nottingham News (esp. Kevin Ludden) - BBC Nationwide (esp. John Williams) Russell Press (esp. John Daniels) - Nottingham University (architectural Dept.) - The Times and Guardian Newspapers - Community Service Volunteers - Management (past and present) of the 'Cricket Players' pub in Hyson Green - Hyson Green Festival Committee Hyson Green Boys Club - Hyson Green Community Centre - The Green Youth Club - Hyson Green Legal & Welfare Action Group - Hyson Green Probation Offices and Officers -- Nottingham Inter Community Enterprise (esp. Maggie and her girls) - Radford Ward Councillors Len Maynard and Ben Allsop - City Council members with vision - City Council members with patience and integrity including Dept. of Technical Services (esp. John Shelton) - City Housing (esp. Malcolm Magee) - City Leisure Services (esp. Joe Woodhouse and Jean Talbot) - County Social Services (Committee Chairman) - Clerkenwell Workshops, London - Small Firms Services Centre (Nottingham staff) - City Industrial Development Unit Nottingham City Council Inner Area Programme officers and staff (esp. John Merry) - City Treasury Dept. (esp. Des Rose) - County Education (Careers) (esp. Ray Lewis and Sycamore Project Manager and Staff) -- City Secretary's Dept. - Nottingham Chief Executive Manpower Services Commission (esp. Mike Hemming at Training Service Division) also John Regan - Mike Gallagher, Euro M.P. for Nottingham - E.E.C. Commission officers in Brussels - Home Office personnel at the Commission for Racial Equality - Department of Employment officers at Caxton House, London - Lord Belwin as Minister overseeing Nottingham's Inner Area Programme - local groups and Tenants Associations including: BRAG - BARTA - SPARTA - Basford TAG - POWA - Forest Fields T & R - Radford Phoenix - Green Advancement Programme - Trent Polytechnic

Finally, officers, activists and members of the Hyson Green Development Tenants Association.