"SMASH THE HEALTH SERVICE", SAY TORIES

Last month I wrote about the NHS giving away donors' blood to private clinics for them to make a profit out of; this month the news is even worse. The Government has sent a Circular to all Area Health Authorities "urging" them to send NHS patients to private clinics - with us footing the bill. It is also proposing "joint planning" with the private sector, which means that the Health Service would deliberately neglect certain areas of health care, leaving the private sector to expand into a monopoly position. Adding insult to injury, the circular also suggests selling off "redundant" hospitals - those closed by the cuts - to the profiteers.

ASSET-STRIPPING

The intention is very clear: the most profitable areas will be hived off to private enterprise which, subsidised by our money and using ex-NHS. resources and staff, will make a bomb for its shareholders, leaving a disintegrating and demoralised Health Service to cope with the "residue". This is asset-stripping at its most blatant.

IF WE DON'T, NOBODY WILL

Most of us owe a great deal to the NHS, and it is up to us to protect it from those whose only real concern is money in the bank. Use the press, the political parties and your unions to bring pressure on the Area Health Authority; the Trades Council, for example, has representatives on the Community Health Council, which is supposed to be the public's watchdog. Don't just shake your head - now is the time to repay your debts. (And don't forget the 'NHS patients only' rule if you're a blood donor)

TRUE BIGOTS, READ ON:

The South African propaganda machine is gearing up for one of its periodic everything's-wonderful -and-the-blacks-love-it-really

Large and expensive adverts in selected papers (not including the Voice, for some reason) tell us that "prejudice and ignorance are rife" among critics, and that "the endeavours to create a fairer society are passed over". They go on to say that "anyone with a sense of fair play" should send off straight away for free propaganda.

Now, we on the Voice collective are nothing if not fair-minded, and this seems to me to be an excellent idea. I strongly urge all of you to write for the whole range of extremely expensively-produced magazines, booklets and (returnable) slides and films - if they 're too

from the

free press

on the road" is actually killed on

the pavement.

Peace News

stiff to use in the most obvious way, they'll get the fire going a treat, or you could send the profits from recycling to the African National Congress or the Anti-Apartheid Movement.

The address is: Director of Information, South African Embassy, Trafalgar Sq., London, WC2N 5BR and don't forget to return the films and slides, whatever you do.

'HOW THEY SUFFER'SECTION

on display in Covent Garden Craft

was offensive and turned it over.

As she walked away the stallholder

shouted abuse and Pat returned and

smashed the clock. The magistrates

shaped like a woman's open legs, was

a degrading object. Pat said in court

encourages sexual violence and should

that the clock "degrades women and

not be allowed to exist".

agreed that the clock, which was

Market. Pat told the stallholder it

Poor old James Duffield is struggling along with rest in Ilkeston, where he runs a furnishing company - he's even had to sell his Rolls-Royce.

"A Rolls is like a red rag to a bull in the present economic situation", he said, after it had been damaged by 'vandals'. Now he's going to get a Metro instead - see, the class war is over

Opportunities Programme. the "need" for conscription is Pat Arrowsmith was given an absolute raised. It would after all be a discharge at Bow Street Magistrates cheap way to boost the forces of Court in London on January 12 after pleading guilty to criminal damage to a perspex clock which had been

Ashfield Comprehensive School, in Nottinghamshire, has improved its appalling truancy record by giving away ice-creams to the class with the best attendance; local teachers are congratulating themselves on a brilliant idea.

NOTTSUCHAGOODIDEA

-Far be it from me to be a spoilsport, but surely if the lessons were worth taking part in, the

kids would come along anyway? Adam and the Ants? You ain't seen nothing yet! Between you and me, all this adoration is a pain in the bum.... Julian Amery, eh? And

It always amazes me how bureaucrats have such an unerring instinct for

making fools of themselves; this month's prize example is Ken Young, the

Brighton staff newsletter, which dares to mention such unmentionables as

deserves a rise, but Ken isn't heavily into humour and has expressed

delegated to deal with the miscreants and, as might be expected from an

ex-vicar, sermonised at length on the poem which (he had been told tosay)

was "inaccurate and in poor taste, showing insensitivity to the problems

as the sermon seems to have been ordered as some sort of loyalty test.

before he could secure a job in the new, super-drooper slimmed-down

"extreme disquiet" at the whole matter. Local boss Peter Atkins was

cuts, redundancies, the Chairperson of the Social Services Committee and,

Now, you might think that anyone who can raise a laugh out of that lot

facing both members (i.e. Councillors) and staff and unfair to the Chairman".

Whether he really believes this nonsense will probably never be known,

Department. Whatever the answer, it looks like Social Services workers are

The subject of his tantrum is a mildly-amusing poem published in the

hatchet-man recently appointed Director of Social Services.

what did he say next? 'TORIES WANT WAR'

For at least twenty years, the above message has graced a wall in South London, and it has been given new meaning by the recent talks between the Employment and Defence Depts. over what to do about the young unemployed.

WHO IS THIS (OTHER) IDIOT?

in for a pretty miserable time.

of course, himself.

There have been special efforts to recruit for the forces among this group for some time (see for example the window-display in the Steine Jobcentre) but the new idea is to tie the army into the Youth

If this gets off the ground, it can only be a matter of time before law and order and reduce unemployment among a potentially-explosive group at one go: under-eighteens, watch out. line

UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM

A mysterious new group has been set up locally to "alleviate unemployment problems in East Sussex". The group will be co-ordinated

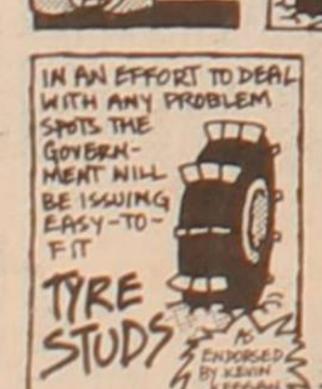
by the county's Social Services Dept., and includes representatives from the Planning, Personnel and Education Depts. There will also be members nominated by the Sussex Constabulary.

Now what, I wonder, is this unlikely collection actually going to do? Re-educate the unemployed? Lock them up? And why are there no representatives from trades unions

or other relevant organisations? If youv'e got any idea (or can guess better than me), drop me a









Community Action

Undercurrents/Peace News A recent best seller in Harrods, In the year of the disabled ... Out the top peoples' supermarket in of the present world population of Knightsbridge, London, is a "budgie 4.3 billion an estimated 450 million shower" complete with hot water tank, are disabled ... of whom 200 million shower attachment, mirror and curtains. are children. New Internationalist At a mere £17 there has been overwhelming demand and Harrods have sold Lambeth Council has voted to close Undercurrents its £1,200 million account with

Barclays Bank. This is by far the The rhinoceros may be eliminated largest account that Barclays has within 10 years and elephants within lost as a result of its South Afric- 15 years if current levels of trade an operations. Ron Hayward, Labour in ivory and rhino horn continue. These are the conclusions of recent Party General Secretary, has since written on behalf of the NEC to all surveys by the International Union Labour-controlled councils in the for the Conservation of Nature and country drawing attention to the Natural Resources (IUCN). Kenya lost two-thirds of her elephants between heavy involvement of Barclays in 1970 and 1978. Uganda's elephants financing apartheid. Britain still were machine-gunned for their ivory leads the investment stakes in South by Amin's retreating troops. Poaching Africa, with 1200 corporations significantly involved in the in Zambia is conducted by large gangs armed with A4-47 rifles and other apartheid economy. 375 US and 350 modern weapons. Demand for rhino horn West German corporations also have considerable investments in South is currently around 8,000 kilos per year (at about \$8,700 per kilo) -Africa. Total foreign investment is now worth well over 25,000 million equivalent to some 2,500 rhinos per year. There are no more than 20,000 rand - of which 700 million rands black rhinos and 3,500 white rhinos worth has flowed into South Africa in the course of the last few months. in Africa, with another 1,500 of the Anti-Apartheid News three Asian species. Time is running out if rhinos are not to go the way One in fourteen of people "killed of the dodo.

Earthwatch

Two Americans killed by right-wing gunmen in El Salvador earlier this year were operating 'undercover' in other words CIA agents. The two, Michael Hammer and Mark Pearlman, both worked for the American Institute for Free Labor Development (AIFLD), a CIA-run outfit that operates under the cover of the AFL-CIO, the US labour federation. Fierce repression in rural areas in El Salvador has been carried out under the cloak of a phony land reform sponsored by AIFLD. The CIA connections emerged during US Solicitor-General Wade H.McCree Jr's statement in favour of revoking ex-CIA official Philip Agee's passport. By special dispensation, Michael Hammer was given a 'hero's burial' in Arlington National Cemetary. As the New York Times pointed out, "Social reformers are not often so honoured". Intercontinental Press

And finally a perceptive comment on the Labour Party: "It is defining itself at long last, more clearly as a socialist party: if in the process it loses some of the extreme right because they too are in the necessary process of redefining their own positions, this is no loss to a party now more concerned with its future than its past. It will not be weakened, but will begin to grow again. In the immediate future there will no doubt be a very effective backlash from the right and some things may seem to undo present gains. Just as there was no occasion for euphoria after the conference, so there should be no despair if for a while some gains seem to be

Brighton Communist

Contents Include.....

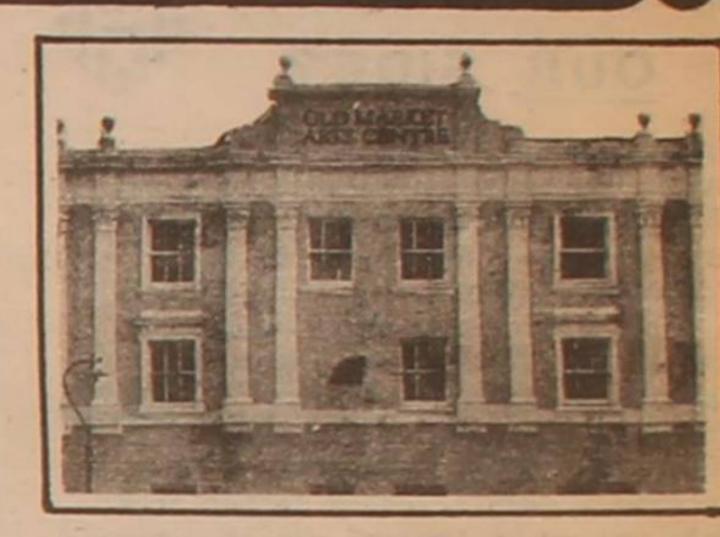
ROD FITCH EXCLUSIVE ... p3 & 9 BRIGHTON'S DUSTMEN....p4 BY PASS FOR BRIGHTON? .. p5 COUNCIL HOTEL.....p1 & 9 WHAT ELSE IS ON INFO & LOTS LOTS MORE

40 Cowper St. Hove

MARCH

Keen to examine.... the recent controversy over the selection of Rod Fitch as Labour Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for Kemp Town, the VOICE discussed some of the issues with him. The following is a shortened version but we have tried to reproduce his views as accurately as possible.





UPPER MARKET STREET, HOVE,

or the ONE MAN ARTS CENTRE

THE RECENT WRANGLES AT BRIGHTON AND HOVE'S OLD MARKET ARTS CENTRE -LEAKED TO THE GAZETTE BY A DISILLUS-IONED MEMBER OF ITS CCUNCIL OF MAN-AGEMENT, BELIEVED TO BE ADRIAN SLATER - HAVE HAD ONE POSITIVE OUTCOME. AT LEAST MOST OF US HAVE BEKN MADE AWARK OF OMAC'S EXISTENCE FOR THE FIRST TIME. DESPITE SUBSE-QUENT ATTEMPTS TO CLOSE RANKS AND DENY A CRISIS, SOMETHING IS OBVIOUS-LY GOING ON BEHIND THE IMPOSING RESTORED FACADE WHICH DOMINATES UPPER MARKET STREET IN HOVE. BRIGHTON VOICE SET OUT TO PENETRATE THE CRACKS IN THE AREA'S LEAST-USED COMMUNITY RESOURCE....

CCNTINUED ON CENTRE PAGES

A MULTINATIONAL CANST AFFORD



Write to

Hove, East Sussex.

A THORN IN OUR SIDE?

Dear Brighton Voice, What has happened to you? In fact, what has happened to your contributors? You are supposed to be a "community paper", but have become a platform for any embittered, invariably left-wing ideologue to apportion blame and destroy a ONI WAY changing world he or she cannot cope with, whilst being proud to receive a complimentary letter from some fellow in Ireland who is pleased to see the Voice supporting the I.R.A. Ideologically sound? You're ideologically dead from the neck up. Furthermore, the paper barely makes any attempt at encouraging real constructive debates, policies and alternatives for this town. It just

denigrates, insults and smears. (week What is the point? You all know that whilst Tyrannosaurus Rex and friends were tearing lumps off one another, a world disaster killed them all. The resemblance is striking. The "left" always blame the "far right" for violence, but one begins to wonder what sort of inadequacies and unrealised internal conflicts cause you to want to relentlessly "smash this", "smash that" and "kill the other" ... Don't you think you could get off your horses long enough to see the real world out there, which isn't very concerned with "antisexist", "anti-racist", "anti-anydifferences-at-all" so-called egalitarian attitudes you espouse. We are all different and that is one of our strengths. Devisive posturing is old hat. Unless you start to communicate some useful information through your paper, I, as one of the partners of Solstice, no longer wish to stock the Voice. As you know we have had our fair share of trouble, being associated with "the left" in this town, and I no longer want any part of your myopic "struggle". If the Voice reflects the views of the community, I will be pleased to sell it. Otherwise it is just a thorn in my side, which irritates me. And I don't want the repartee that "anyone" can write an article for the paper. Would "anyone" want to? Your image alienates Joe Public, so let's see some changes, eh? Yours,

P.A.Bonett

12 issues

BRIGHTON

VOICE



40 Cowper St,



Dear Brighton Voice, Your front page illustration accompanying the bus article(in the last issue) shows a London Transport AEC Regent 3. In fact it is many years now since Regent 3s operated in Brighton and they were never in this

This type of vehicle became redundant in London in 1979 - thus proving you're using old letraset. Yours hawk-eyed,

Adam Trimingham is fond of applying

is again in his cock-a-hoop contrib-

last issue. The name Brighton Voice

ution to the letters page of your

enters his ear - buzz, click - the

words 'weary polemic' come out of

What are the characteristic feat-

describe one's opponents? And if so,

is 'weary polemic' an ingredient of

Pots and kettles, Trimmmingham.

Trimmingham? Do they include the

repetitious use of cliches to

your own journalistic style?

Dolors de Catega

Dolores de Cabeza

Guipuzcoa

Spain

ures of 'weary polemic', Mr

the words 'weary polemic' to the

A Bus Spotter. Er, thanks. But what did you think of the bus article itself? - Voice

Dear BV,



all our actions. Love and peace,

peace movement.

Jon Rogers, Joint Secretary, Brighton Youth CND,

BRIGHTON

Here is a copy of a letter we sent

As an interested group of young

We would therefore appreciate a

to the local press and education

of the young people of Brighton"

us some publicity. Obviously we do

would be of any use whatsoever, but

we wish to draw people's attention

civil defence. This shows that the

authorities do not believe in the

If more people realized this they

We will continue to inform you of

would be more likely to join the

sort of defence against nuclear war

that they are advising us to prepare.

We hope the letter may possibly gain

not believe civil defence in schools

to the official inaction in providing

people, including many college and

High School students, we are concern-

for the safety of your pupils in the

event of a pre-emptive nuclear strike

what your actions would be in such an

We are sending copies of this letter

authority in the hope that they will

consider a strategy for the survival

YOUTH

CND

to local headteachers:

against this country.

event.

Dear Brighton Voice,

"Dear Headteacher,



contents of Brighton Voice. He used the expression in an article printed in the Evening Armhole early last summer, and lo and behold, here it

Dear Brighton Voice, I have recently become friendly with Les Moss of Whitehawk, who lost a leg in Brighton General Hospital, and he has been telling me of his fight to get some compensation. I'm a 'Do it now' merchant having been a Sergeant in the Sussex Yeomanry during the war, so I wrote to Maggie Thatcher with a constructive letter, and enclosed your article, asking her if she would get her Minister for the Disabled 'cracking'. I heard from 10 Downing St yesterday, saying she was

getting 'weaving on it'. Yours sincerely, John Rawlings

Dear Brighton Voice,

I write with reference to your article on the proposed cuts to the bus services, and to object to the use of the Crucifixion to describe them pictorially. Whatever views one may hold regarding the cuts, I do not think it is necessary, or indeed appropriate, to describe them in a way which gives offence to other people.

I would ask that you give more careful thought to such matters Yours sincerely,

D.Oliver, Shoreham-by-sea

Er, thanks. But what did you think of the bus article itself?





CALLING ALL COLLECTORS, LIBRARIANS AND ACTIVISTS!

£10 institutions

Now's your chance to really use the VOICE! There are a few (and we mean a few) complete sets of the Voice left. Bargain price: £5 individuals

Including a free index! Individual copies available at 10p each + postage. (early copies only available in complete sets)

The INDEX TO BRIGHTON VOICE 1973-80 is available separately at £2 + 20p p&p (libraries £5 + p&p) This by the way is a professionally produced, detailed index to nos. 1-70. It has been produced so that activists can use the information we have published over the years, in their struggles. We hope you find it useful.

Knowledge is power, but not if its buried in a file of back-issues. So buy the index, and use it!



as you can. We prefer CONSTRUCTIVE letters. And especially letters that contain INFORM-ATION. We leave our readers to comment on total of whoever works on the paper each month. New workers always welcome!!

PRIVATE TRANSFER

Dear Brighton Voice, I was very pleased to see the article in last month's BV about the Nuffield Hospital. Private medicine has always represented the very worst traditions of health care, providing a dual standard of provision based ed at the apparent lack of provision on wealth not need.

What the article does not touch on, however, is the degree to which private medicine is subsidised by the NHS with regard to blood and public statement from you, explaining blood products. In many other countries, America in particular, blood donors are paid for their blood. As a result, the quality of blood obtained is considerably lower. Giving a pint of blood is a standard way of getting money for the heroin addict's next fix, or the alcoholic's next bottle. The resultant blood is frequently anaemic (through giving blood too often) and carries a far higher risk of transmitting infective hepatitis, apart from the more obvious risks. Fortunately, in this country, the situation is very different. Blood is only taken from healthy donors and even then only at intervals more than adequate for the body to make up the loss. As a result, the quality of the blood is very high. The number of donors who present themselves with no other motive than the well-being of other people is the envy of countries like America where blood donation is

> profit-orientated. But I am sure that one of the main reasons that people here ARE so generous with their blood is because they think it is being used where it is most needed - in that great non-profit making organisation the N.H.S. Fortunately, most of the blood is; most, BUT NOT ALL. I was horrified to discover that so far this year (ie in the last seven weeks) the Nuffield Hospital has had free of charge, over 240 units of blood. Now, although donors are not paid for their blood, the blood collection process is a costly one. Numerous tests have to be carried out on each bag of blood before they can be issued to the hospitals as safe to use for patients. This process averages out at about £15 per unit of blood. This cost is met by the Regional Health Authority and comes out of the general Health Service budget. That means that, so far this year, the Nuffield has been subsidised by the NHS to the tune of £3600. Multiply that out over all the private hospitals in the country and the figure becomes quite horrend-

Please, as a result of this, dont stop donating your blood. That will just lead to NHS operations being cancelled and NHS waiting lists getting longer. A lot of loud protests to the government might be more helpful together with angry letters to MPs and the like.

> A health worker (Name and address supplied, but withheld for fear of victimisation)



LETTERS are welcome. But PLEASE be as brief the strongly-worded letter this month. But we would point out that the Voice is the sum

INTRODUCING the REAL

'Militant' fights for Socialism

BV. You have been referred to as a member of the 'Militant Tendency'. Is this an organisat ion which recruits in opposition to the aims of the Labour Farty?

RF. No, certainly not! There are many groups in the Labour Movement. Militant is the Marxist wing of the Labour & Trades Union Movement and is fighting for socialist policies within the Labour Farty. It's overlooked that the LP is a socialist party calling for the nation alisation of the commanding heights of the economy. The news paper provides a platform for and covers disputes involving people normally excluded from the ordinary media. It highlights world events and tries to link international struggles of the working class.

Boom in party membership

BV. Your selection as PPC has been linked with some local party resignations. Have you any comments on this?

RF. If people feel they cannot stay in the LP then they should leave although I don't welcome anyone doing this. However some have gone outside the party and used the media to attack their colleagues and I believe that's a disgraceful act. But we must remember that the press never tal about the number of people actually joining the L.P. Several people locally have left but the Argus doesn't tell of the 50 or so who have joined on the basis of the selection - they are facts. Nationally individual membership has gone up from 284000 to 335000 in the last year - in the region of 25% increase. Those local people who have resigned should recontest their council seats which they won on a L.P. ticket and put their democracy to the test, I'm sure they would lose.

I stood and won the Kemp Town nomination by using the democratic procedures. If I'd lost I wouldn't have abandoned the party because my ideas and principles are the things that keep me in the party. Those who are leaving have looked on the party as a career council, parliament etc.

35 hr week + lower retirement age BV. You believe in the gener-

ation of local apprenticeships. Would you be in favour of joint Local Authority/local industry initiatives?

RF. There should be no massive hand - outs to big business like in the last Labour Govt. to take on a handful of youngsters - we've got to create those jobs for young people who have'nt ever had a job. Big business is 'nt interested in assisting and that's why I support the nationalization of major industries. There are two approaches to creating work:

1. A 35 hour week would create in the region of 800,000 jobs and once control of industries is obtained these measures would be possible.

2. A reduction in the retirement age. A Lab. Govt. would have to instruct a tory council to set up a direct labour force Its' crucial to modernise Moulsecoomb & Whitehawk under direct control of LA. Too often plumb contracts are hand ed out to private companies. I'm not saying they shouldn't compete but it should be done under Trade Unions control & rates of pay which would ensure apprentices and young people are not treated as slave labour.

Nationalise Building Ludustry

BV. But, by the time you come to office won't the tories have totally destroyed direct labour forces anyway?

hull because 4000 people turned out to protest. It is possible to force them locally to change course. dole who won't sit back. They'll

fight for their jobs and servi-

scandal that direct labour foror 'apolitical'groups? ces should have to compete for council work. If necessary the RF. I think we should be talkcouncil chamber. To re-establish direct labour locally will be a priority. If those unemployed workers are guarenteed work at TU rates they'll come back. But lets not forget that whole has been wrecked, public and private, squeezed to death building a few houses they can't sell and at the end of the day its the workers who end up on the dole, not the company directors. The LP. must nationalise the building industry to build for need - there's no problemn about finding skilled workers, there's 250,000 skilled building workers on the dole now. Labour to take strong local powers together over an issue BV. Both Brighton and East Suss-

ex Councillors are known to. favour property development. If elected as Kemp Town MP how could you ensure that resources are channelled into socially useful areas of public expenditure?

I'm confident we can gain control of Brighton Council in 1983. Even if we don't I believe in strong measures. Where LA's resist than the Lab. Govt. should bring in Commission ers too, comprised of Trades Unionists, housewives, pensioners, ie. the community who are suffering now.

RF. Yes, and we're not talking

about 2 or 3 council gardeners

we're talking about thousands

of skilled workers put on the

ces to be maintained. It's a

fight has to be taken to the

the building industry as a

by high interest rates, by

or painters here and there,

The left and the tory press

BV. How will 'militant' policies get over to people, hampered and obstructed by the tory monopoly press?

RF. The press is now run by 5 millionaires. Their interests are not those of the workers. Democratic debate is possible only on their terms. The Daily Mail tried to influence the local selection by printing an article on the eve of the meeting but it did not work. We can overcome the local media as we have done in the past. People have short memories. Denis Hobden was known as a Marxist, the 'red fox'! There was a massive smear campaign over his public and private life. In the years up to his election to Kemp Town in 1964. We've now got experience of how to deal with press campaigns.

Fighting the Cuts

BV. As newly elected PPC what influence would you hope to exert on local campaigns like fighting the cuts?

RF. I believe I can give a form of lead in campaigns. Despite massive destruction of services one victory we did gain was saving the Barclay Sheltered Workshop which is something - even in the year of the handicapped, the tories wanted it closed. But many cuts are often unseen - school milk, dinners, books - we don't see the result till children get older. The resistance varies nationally. The tories had to , but not one which exists in reverse their policies in Seli-

Militant not sectarian

BV. What is the 'Militant' attitude towards non-aligned

ing about the Labour movements' attitude. My own is such groups need our support and ercouragement while their aims and objectives are broadly in line with ours. My own experience on the Anti-Fascist committee shows what great threats minority groups find themselves under from lump-en groups of neo-fascists. I think locally we have worked closely with CHE the local Jewish community & local Liberal Farty and womens Groups. We cannot physically work with every fringe group because our struggle is firmly within the Labour and TU movement but we do not close our eyes to what is going on. The Resource Centre Fair (14th Feb) was a major success which highlights how people can be brought in the labour movement in As PPC I'd be interested in everyones' case (although not necessarily agreeing with it)! As to Militant's attitude to non-aligned and minority groups an air of sectarianism has been wrongly generated, often by those who fail to win political RF. When elected to Kemp Town, points with us. It's said,

we're in it for our own ends. Of course we are, we're social ists but our ends are the same. I think we recognize that minority groups play an increasing role in the town.

3 line whip on abortion

W. Obviously women are not a minority group, whats your understanding of womens liberation, equal rights legislation and the position of women in the LF and on the TC?

ship of women has increased dramatically. Women's issues are vital, but the Brighton LP is triving and has a large number of women involved at all levels. Women's involvement is not a major question in the LP. One thing I feel strongly is there should be a 3 line whip on the abortion legislation. It was disgraceful that Lab. MPs had a choice as to whether they should support progressive reform of that nature. In supporting abortion as of right on the NHS I'd still argue that it shouldn't be seen as a form of contraception. As a socialist I believe with all facilities available many women would choose to have children, if assurances could be given that jobs, creches, etc. would be available to allow a return to work. Under a socialist society these facilities would be available But you can't necessarily

attitudes.

BV. But surely it as to be remembered that at local council meetings men have louder voices than women;

'We all make the cakes'

legislate for changes in

RF. I don't think so. I think if women let mer have louder voices that's a problemn, competition' exploits women as Brighton RP. I think we've all ted in advertising - especially

got loud voices. But I recognize the fact that women are ntimidated, women are forced to look after children for 10 years or so, forced to stay in the home playing a secondary role. we should make sure that they are encouraged to play a full role. When women become involved in the LP they fight for policies they believe in and therefore will speak up. We've got a long way to go but women do play a major role in our LP., not just making cakes - we all do that - ut they play an active role in the political side and that's vitally important. .t national womens conference we've insisted that women's issues don't predominate but that delegates take resolutions about the economy -national issues- political issues, etc.

'No question of discrimination'

By. But surely women decide what issues they want to take to conference?

RF. Oh no, its decided by the party! Its important that it does not become just a section which deals with only womens issues. we have to play a major role in bringing women into the party - to involve them in vital areas, inflation housing, cost of food, rent etc. - women bear the brunt of these. There's no question of discrimination against women

'Not just sex, colour or creed'

BV. But what about violence to women, the media, how women are presented at every level ... attitudes ...?

RF. It's sick that women are taking the biggest battering from a woman prime minister. There's mass apathy as the recession bites, but it's not a man - woman question, its people - their lives are being ruined. The tory claim to support the family is a myth. What we want is equal relaitionships within the workplace, family and so lety. But we've got a long way to go to involve everyone at all levels - a socialist government would be able to gove the resources to plan for the involvement of the RF. There's been a major change individual and communities. in the last 10 years, TU member- This is not a question of sex colour or creed but all of us. We will stand and fight together for those things we believe in.

'We're all exploited'

BV. Surely the ways women are presented as objects are so entrenched as to be beyond conventional party politics?

RF. Oh, I disagree. We talk

about the media, who owns it and in whose interest it is run. We can talk about the gimmicks of P.3 of the Sun, (BV. .. and in the Yorkshire Miners magazine!) Tes, there's no need for that sort of thing, but thats got to be fought from within the NUM. but the media as a whole, if run by the community would finish with the question of trying to sell newspapers because of some some sexual object inside. The question of media exploitation must be settled - og. the Ty franchise has just come up - under a socialist society all of us would be sitting on those boards of our own TV stations. Involvement of all - the TV we would like to see would change attitudes warped by 200 years of the degredation of the capitalist system. Also advertising - newspapers and TV are supordinate to this but in a socialist society there'd be no need to advertise because . commodities would be available to all. Only so called 'rrea objects. Children too are expor-

continued on page 9

revolting dustmen

MANY BRIGHTON RESIDENTS CANNOT FAIL TO HAVE NOTICED THE IRRECULAR APPEARANCES OF THEIR DUSTMEN SINCE EARLY FEBRUARY.

IN AN EFFCRT TO SAVE MONEY, BRIGHTON COUNCIL HAVE INTRODUCED A NE. SYS EM OF TOWN AND THIS HAS REDUCED THE NUMBER OF DUSTCARTS FROM 21 to 18. NATURALLY, THE DUST-MEN HAVE OBJECTED TO WHAT SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN A FAIRLY ARBITRARY RE-DISTRIBUTION OF "BEATS" AND HAVE REACTED BY WORKING TO RULE.

THE VOICE S OKE TO BRIGHTON 1 DIVISION OF THE GENE AL AND MUNICIPAL WORK-ERS' UNION TO GLT A BACK-ROUND FICTURE.

The Workload

In 1974, after a "bin carry" survey (counting the number of dustbins actually emptied), the Council made a move to have the number of "beats" reduced to 18. At the time, this was successfully resisted. Yet the period 1969-1979 has brought an increase of 5,515 new houses in the area, to say nothing of the relentless increase in the number of flat conversions squeezed by developers from Brighton's elderly housing stock, all adding to the burden of refuse collection.

By 1981, new houses alone accounted for 16,500 additional "bin carries". Yet the Council has argued that not all constituted individual operations, due to bulk disposal into skips, etc., from flats. The Council even seemed unwilling to recognise that there had been an increase in the overall volume of work, achieved without additional staff, and in itself constituting a saving for rate-payers.

Management Games

About 2 years ago, an independent time and motion study was carried out, and a standardised time allowance set against each physical movement involved in lifting, carrying, emptying and returning every dustbin. However, the experts had carried out their measurements at the depot. So they failed to take account of the many time -wasting and dangerous hazards encountered on the beat - inaccessible basements, obstructions, traffic hold-ups, etc. .

In another display of managerial incompetence early this year, the Council, still desperate to reduce the number of beats, seemed to have arbitr-

well-known local taxpayer ...

One of Brighton's most infamous landlords recently hit the headlines over a tax demand for £2.9 million. The Argus quoted Hoogstraten as saying "When I first heard of the demand I was knocked sideways, I didnt sleep for a few nights". At least he has a comfortable bed in which to have his sleepless nights, which is more than some of his tenants had after encountering Mr. Hoogstraten's heavy-handed

The Argus naturally ignored Hoogstraten's brushes with the law (even the Daily Telegraph managed an oblique reference), concentrating instead on why he chose to return to Britain after six years abroad: "I like to stroll down Bond Street and have tea at Fortnum and Masons" blah, blah, blah, Not a word of course about why this 'property tycoon'found it necessary to leave the country in the first place.

eviction procedures.



The GMWU feels that in-The effect of all this timidation of individual has been to increase inworkers throughout industry security in the work-force. is increasing, as managements Relations, between the regulbegin to negotiate directly ar staff and sub-contractors with employees. (This is the brought in to clear the currstyle of Edwardes at BL, and ent backlog have deteriorated. even of KTM locally - see as have those between the Brighton Voice No. 73 - where dustment and ratepayers. the management sent individ-Older workers, particularly, ual letters to workers.) feel intimidated by the threat Official union intervention of being re- allocated to is tending to be reduced to older vehicles and /or more time-wasting arbitration, hazardous beats. The arbiand union rights to negotiate trary re-distribution of work in their members' interests has thrown established bonus are being undermined. Now schemes into the melting-pot, Brighton Council seems to be with the result that workers adouting similar tactics. doing the same job receive varying earnings. This can

lead to suspicion and rivalry,

and consequently decreased

As to saving money,

Tory "good housekeeping" has

this particular example of

spread confusion among the

rate-payers. Reallocation

of beats means different

collection days. People

don't know when to put out

their dustbins and/or keep

even more overtime has to

be worked to clear a back-

"cost-saving" reduction in

rounds. Extra staff are

crews. (Working to rule

A CONTRACT

It would appear that Hoogstraten

brought him up against the Inland

power than his tenants who he's

Court he's got no choice about

because he "loves England". No

doubt there's enough salted away

elsewhere in the world (Bahamas?

repeating the violence and extort-

ion that characterised his earlier

Switzerland?) to rebuild his

empire - preferably without

property dealings.

With his assets in this country

of £4-5 million frozen by the High

paying up. So Hoogstraten puts on

a brave face saying he'll pay up

exploited in Brighton.

Revenue who pack a great deal more

has been trying to do a Lord

Vestey, But tax-avoidance has

means that vehicles don't

for sick colleagues.)

Benefits to Ratepayers

efficiency.

Mean while, antagonism between workers and managements escalat s, and in the end those who foot the billthe rate-payers - pay higher rates for less service, thanks to our beloved guardians of the public purse and their "cost-saving" schemes.



art show

At the Muzart Arts Centre, 12 York Place, Brighton, throughout the month of May there will be a group exhibition by the Brighton Arts Foundation - a group of artists sharing space etc at Muzart - based on the theme of anti war/anti nuclear armament. As well as paintings and drawings there will be, it is hoped, a fairly large section devoted to photo-montage, information, etc, on the subject. Any relevant material, ideas, assistance would be greatly appreciated in order to make the best possible use of this opportunity to speak out against something we are all no doubt concerned or involved with. Contact Mr R.G. Labib at Muzart for

more details. Tel 608232

two piers

Two piers has been set up to provide housing for young people on low incomes or in housing need in the Brighton area. We hope to buy our first house at the start of the coming financial year in April. The co-op is about to become 'fully mutual' which means that membership of the co-op will consist only of actual and potential residents of the co-op houses. This means that at the moment the group is relatively unformulated and is still open to influence. If you are interested in joining the co-op, or you would like further information about us, either come to a meeting or contact Ray or Brenda. Meetings are on the first and third Wednesdays of each month in the Gingerbread office, basement of -6 Marlbourgh Place, Btn. The Chairperson is Ray Ager 3a, Adelaide Cres. tel: 772205 or Brenda Boardman, 9 Grange Road, Lewes. tel: 2029.

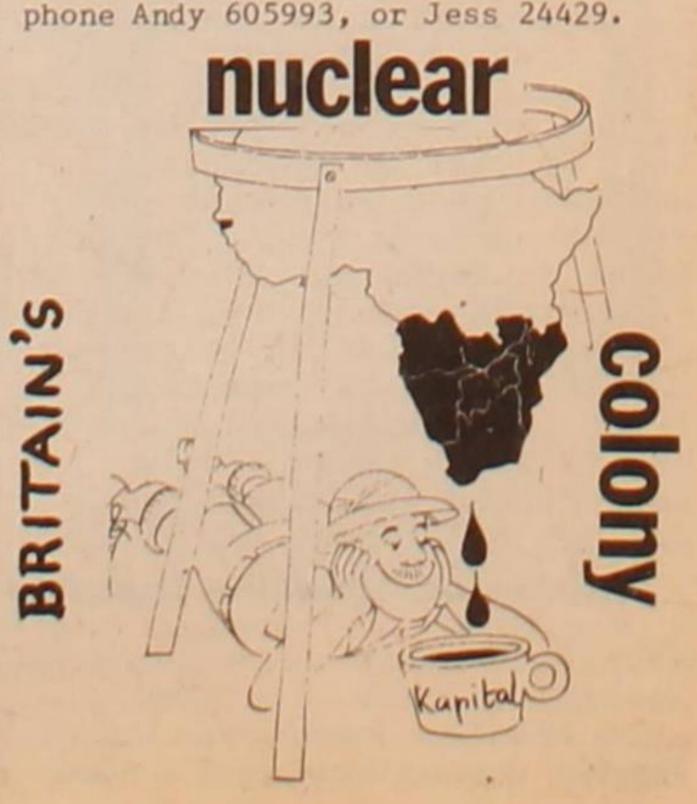
While your electricity bills are high, the Namibian people are paying for them with their lives. HALF of Britain's nuclear power fuel is taken from war-ridden Namibia, against the will of its people, and against international law. Namibia is illegally and brutally occupied by over 80,000 South African troops and the apartheid regime forces its race rule on Namibians and refuses them their democratic independence. SWAPO, the Namibian national liberation movement, has repeatedly called on states like Britain to stop plundering Namibia's wealth while the nation is held hostage. Yet successive British Govts. have not only ignored these calls, but have also ignored decisions by the United Nations Security Council and the International Court of Justice which outlaw the trade.

So, while British companies fuel and arm the apartheid war machine against Namibia, one third of Namibian national wealth is taken abroad per year, and we are forced by our government to accept stolen goods which encourage South Africa to prolong its vicious rule of the people of Namibia.

WHAT YOU CAN DO Write to the Foreign Office, Dept. of Energy and the Central Electricity Generating Board, and demand that . they cancel the contracts now. The illegal contracts are signed between the CEGB and Rossing Uranium Ltd., the latter being half-owned and fully managed in Namibia by the British mining multinational company, Rio Tinto Zinc. The contracts are, however, authorised by the British and South African governments.

N MARCH 14TH, FROM 11-2, THERE WILL BE A PICKET AND LEAFLETTING OUTSIDE THE SEEBOARD ELECTRICITY SHOWROOM TO PUBLICIZE THE ILLEGALITY OF THESE BRITISH URANIUM CONTRACTS IN NAMIBIA.

For further details/information, phone Andy 605993, or Jess 24429.





The proposed route of the Brighton byand building more housing. But the pass passes through one of the most interesting wooded areas in Brighton. The route skirts round most of the south side of Stanmer wood passing to the area - an 8 mile bypass. through a natural gap between the wood and a neighbouring copse and This involves knocking down nine

across a corn field (top left) running homes and causing misery to the alongside the Polytechnic student hostel and the school for maladjusted children, and then cutting through the west end of the wood (centre photos avenue on the spur running through the wood(top right) will survive but will

The effect on the area will be far worse than the devastation already imposed on Falmer

clearly be badly affected by the mass-

ive dual carriage-way.

If you were suddenly given £50 million of public money to spend in Brighton & Hove how would you use it? Probably on relieving unemployment, boosting education, helping disabled people, improving public transport Government is planning to spend that sum on a project of doubtful benefit

residents of thousands more. It will destroy the Downsview Training Centre. The whole route is through areas of outstanding beauty, including Southwick Hill, a National Trust beauty spot, and Stanmer woods.

The justification for the bypass is that it will reduce traffic in the town centre, yet official figures bely this. The scale of the road is immense. Some embankments will be 70 feet high. There will be four spaghetti junctions, of which the largest at Patcham will be around 45 acres - about three times the size of Queens Park.

> The bypass will give enormous opportunities for speculation and development. Already Brighton Council has looked at three sites for rubbish transfer stations in the Stanmer and Coldean area. Pressure for a hypermarket at Patcham or Toads Hole Valley will be hard to resist. Private developers have already put in planning applications for houses which will be snapped up by people coming to retire by the sea,

not those who need them. Wimpeys already own West Hove Golf Course where a link road is planned. They want to build a large estate next to this new highway.

So far all the councils - East and West Sussex, Brighton and Hove have come out strongly in favour of the £50 million montrosity. Only Adur, which meets on March 3 and is Liberal controlled, could oppose although its planning committee narrowly voted in favour. ABBA, the Anti Brighton Bypass

Association, was formed to co-ordinate all the opposition which would otherwise have been picked off one by one by the councils and the Dept of the Environment. So far it has been remarkable successful and already has well over 1,000 paid up members. Its affiliated groups include many amenity societies, Friends of the Earth, residents' associations, and the Labour and Liberal Parties in Brighton and Portslade.

ABBA's biggest achievement so far has been to force a public enquiry which will probably be held in the autumn. But it needs both members and money to put up a good case against the so-called experts at the inquiry, which is likely to last at least three months. A traffic expert has been asked by ABBA to give a preliminary report on the Dept's highly suspect traffic figures. Legal representation may be obtained too.



ABBA is holding a series of public meetings in those areas most affected during the next few months. The first is at St. Helen's Church Hall, Hangleton on March 20 at 8pm. The nest is at the Church of the Good Shepherd Hall, Dyke Road, on April 15 at 8pm. Further meetings are being arranged at Patcham and Coldean, and will be advertised. Anyone interested in ABBA should write to or phone its chairman, Peter Gavan at 20 Wish Road, Hove. Phone Brighton 417228.



Bupa

Education?

Businessman and current Mayor of Brighton, Mr. John Leoch, stated in the Evening Argus of January 2: "We spend about 54% of the rates on education and I think it's far too high a total.

"I never excelled at school yet it hasn't prevented me from doing well in business.

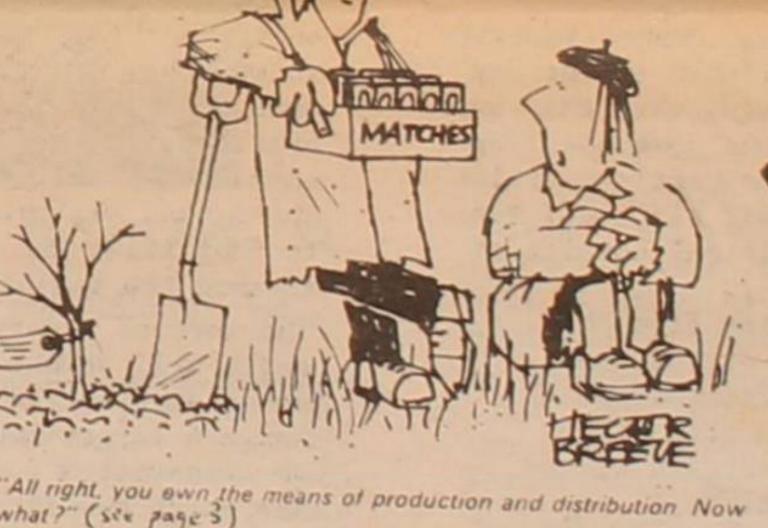
"When we were young we never had education like they do today, but I think young people are over-educated. "It takes away that need you have to fight for existance and takes away your sense of independence. "Education is very important but the essential thing to make your way in life is initiative and hard work. "I know dozens of people who have made a success in the world without even being able to master the three

"As my dad used to say, going to university's a great thing but there's no guarantee it will do any good for you when you go out to work." In the same article, Mr. Stanley Theobald, head of an estate agency and former Mayor of Brighton, said:

"I agree with examinations because I think they make people put their shoulder to the wheel. "But I have the greatest doubts about universities and I think twice about giving anyone employment if

"I think the greatest training is the school of life and universities are sheltered environments."

they have come from one.



'All right, you own the means of production and distribution Now what?" (see page 3)

Golden Boy

Tom Forester is the Evening Argus! golden boy at the moment. Just a fortnight ago, he and his wife Delia left the Labour Party in protest at its drift into "leftwing extremism." The Argus is now projecting him as a courageous social democrat ... a man with a conscience who will stand up for moderation in the face of Trotskyite nastiness:

But Tom Forester's conscience seems to be remarkably flexible. Less than a month ago he attended an interview with Crawley Labour Party GMC. The purpose of the interview? Forester wanted to be the Labour Party's candidate in Crawley for the next general election!! What price his commitment to social democracy if he'd been selected?

Co-op

East Sussex County Council has just done a deal with BUPA the private health company. This will allow BUPA propaganda to be sent to ESCC employees in their pay packets!

Last month's VOICE showed how BUPA is making vast profits at the expense of our local health service.

East Sussex NALGO is to advise its members not to handle BIPA material. As NALGO members work in the county treasurer's department this could disrupt the distribution plan. Members are also to be advised not to participate in the scheme.

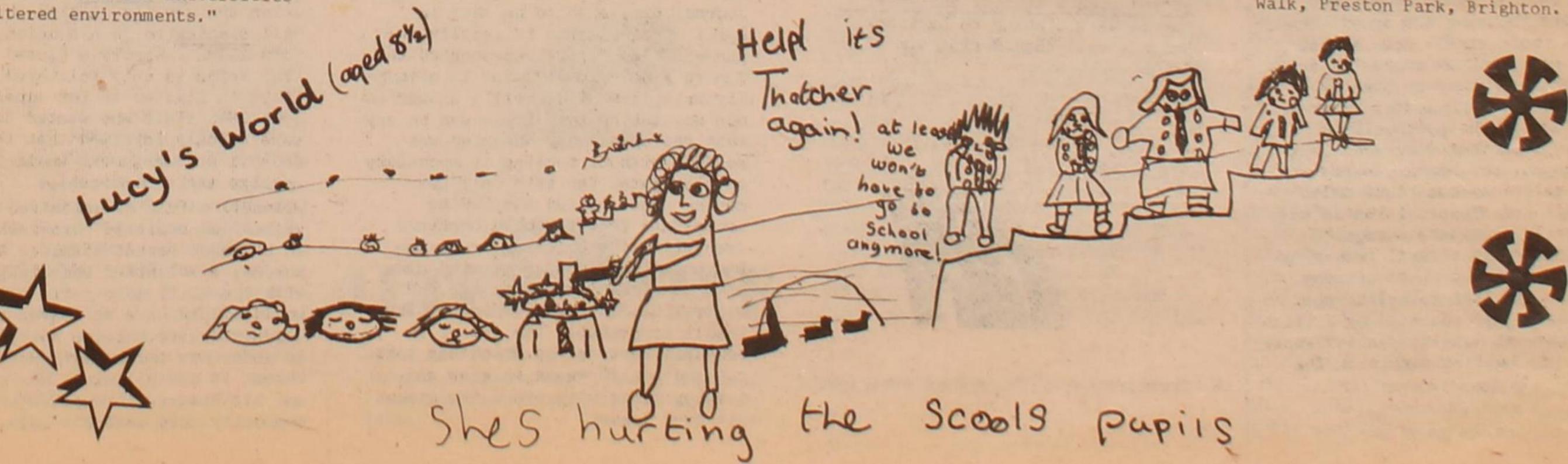
Other trades unions with members employed by ESCC should now follow this lead.

There are times when the local Coop is indistinguishable from any other supermarket. So it is pleasing to report that the Brighton Coop has started using bio-degradable plastic for its carrier bags. As the label says "Byoplastic will decompose harmlessly when buried in soil". Let's hope the other supermarket chains will follow suit. Perhaps our Hove readers could write to their MP, Tim Sainsbury, to find out

what the family firm are planning?

Cartwheel

CARTWHEEL is a national network of people committed to the founding of a co-operative rural community of around 200 people, which will be self-sufficient in food and energy needs. Its mailing address is 11 George Street Brighton (tel 694600). As a first step to achieving this ideal, some members of Cart. wheel have squatted an unused County Council house near Preston Park, which after much effort is now home for 12 otherwise homeless people. They need any surplus furniture, carpets, curtains, kitchen utensils, etc (even on loan). Anyone interested in Cartwheel is welcome to drop in 'any time': The Nook, 3 Lovers Walk, Preston Park, Brighton.



Beginnings

OMAC was conceived during 1974 when Brighton and Hove Arts Council was formed in response to a situation of dwindling facilities for local arts. By autumn 1975 they had found the listed warehouse in Hove still under going conversion and in early 1976 a campaign for funds was launched. Later that year Brighton and Hove Arts Centre Limited was formed, registered as a charity, and bought the present premises from the Sussex Mutual Building Society for £25,000.

6.

The first volunteer working party started conversion in early 1977, but it was the next year that the project really took off when the Manpower Services Commission (MSC) entered the scene, providing labour, whilst Hove Council loaned a pittance for materials. The Job Creation Scheme was followed by a Special Temporary Employment Project (STEP), and in turn the Youth Opportunities Programmes which have made possible the completion of the north wing, but which are at the centre of the present controversy.

The rows and resignations within

"OMAC's chief activity..."

Last year a new fund-raising campaign was launched to find the £170,000 needed to build the main auditorium.

In fact, due to an ethos which rejects arts grants and council provision in favour of private charity and industrial support for the arts, fund-raising seems to have been OMAC's chief activity and objective throughout its seven-year history. Unfortunately, community arts have not sprung-up spontaneously in their wake. Although the north wing, with its bar, gallery and studios, is an impressive feat, the studio theatre is still unfinished due to a mistake in the plans and no one can predict when there'll be enough money for the main theatre. At the moment, Brighton and Hove Arts Centre Limited is believed to be £20,000 in the red.



The missing arts...

week.

Out of a conurbation of 250,000, OMAC has managed a membership of only 700, and of the fifty or sixty amateur societies affiliated to Brighton & Hove Arts Council who expected use of OMAC's facilities, a mere eight now use the Centre! The Arts Council of Great Britain made a capital grant of £10,000 under its "housing the arts" scheme, but the professional arts are as absent from OMAC as community arts.

Hard and enthusiastic work by volunteers, craftspeople, supervisors and youth opportunities trainees has created an excellent environment. But block donations by public relations-conscious multinationals and MSC provision do not necessarily provide a community resource; merely a shell requiring community involvement to breathe life into it. It's revealing that an excellent bar, donated by British Rail Transport Hotels, remains empty even on the busiest nights of the

In February when the Polytechnic alone hosted three exciting plays (Joint Stock's Say Your Prayers, Brighton Theatre's Variety, and a musical production by the Women's Theatre Group based on Stevie Smith's poems), most of OMAC's programme consisted of regular club meetings. Such groups inevitably develop into cliques excluding outsiders. More importantly, camera clubs, "keep fit" and "dance for beginners" are surely better suited to council provision through further education than the sole activities of the area's only arts centre.



The wrong direction ... "

OMAC are not, as Gazette articles have implied, purely personal; but intimately related to the running of the Centre as a whole. Don Smith, is trying to call an extraordinary general meeting, but claims his concern is not so much with manager Tim Fearon's resignation, or the management committee's decision to curtail youth opportunities programmes. "The sole reason is to consider the future of the Centre in the present economic climate and its role in subsidising the arts which I don't think it's doing at present", he told BV recently. "It's going in completely the wrong direct ion and I feel it's essential to

review its present course." He pointed out that OMAC's facilities were only available in the day and not the evenings, when they were really needed by the community. Mr. Smith summed-up the Centre's artistic role as: "a small classical music programme and a minimal commitment to the visual arts."

His own resignation from the Appeals Committee was, he said, entirely due to interference in their fund-raising attempts by Robert Gunnell, Chairman of the Council of Management.

Mr. Gunnell himself vehemently denied the failure of his own appeals venture, "OMAC 80" which was launched last year - on the grounds that it was a ten year, not a one year project, and its success could only be judged in 1990! But Tim Fearon described his chairman's efforts at fund-raising as: "quite frankly, a joke" and told BV he'd expect his cards after the sort of performance Gunnell had put in, launching the appeal badly and actually losing money on some fundraising projects.

Mr. Fearon went on to explain that only a motion of no-confidence in the Council of Management or a censure motion by OMAC's members on the Chairman himself, could release the Arts Centre from Robert Gunnell's grip and put it back on the right course. Don Smith needs 10% of members' signatures to call the extraordinary general meeting. All members paying the £3 subscription to join OMAC have the right to attend such a meeting and vote. Any members wishing to back Mr. Smith's call should ring him at

Brighton 775326.



OMAC - AS

Youth Opportunities Programmes

Of all those the Voice approached at OMAC, only Tim Fearon appeared in any way concerned with its role as sponsor and administrator of 3 youth opportunities programmes. This seems strange, given that the future of 21 unemployed teenagers and eight adult staff will be in jeopardy from March. It's strange because the YOP building scheme has rovided most of the work and a great deal of the money for the Centre. A YOP co-ordinator explained that it's a common problem for organisations like OMAC, desperate for the money and free work the programmes provide to go ahead and poasor them without really appreciating that lots of trainees were oing to appear, needing employment, training and supervision and some onsideration for their future. This s clearly the case at OMAC, where an over-reaction is removing both

the Play Resource Unit and a Special Group based at Hanover Community Association under OMAC's sponsorship. Doubtless when the building work is done, the remaining programme will also be ditched. Robert Gunnell told the Voice: "We're not interested in social security schemes; or at least, only in so far as they enable us to build the Arts Centre." He was interested enough to pick up a cheque from MSC in 1978 for £136,000! (This, incidentally, can be compared to the County Council's laughable commitment of £800 in the same period and Brighton and Hove Councils' equally derisory grants of £2,500).

"we're not interested in social security schemes

Instead of reducing the YOPs like

this, Tim Fearon told us he'd have

liked to expand them. According to

him, the whole Centre could be run

by trainees; manning the reception

area, gallery, bars and back-stage

resource other groups could use for

facilities to provide a theatre

their productions. This wouldn't

exclude the present volunteers. Mr

Gunnell's reaction to this was to

tell us "It's just not practical",

clarify. Subsequent events have

provided that clarification ...

On Feb 6th, the Gazette ran an

article based on the claims of yet

and Managerial Staffs (ASTMS) had

attempted to set up a closed shop

at the Centre. This is complete

another committee chairman that the

Association of Scientific, Technical

It took OMAC a year to give super-

visors a contract and when they did,

Committee) and Robert Gunnell over-

reacted with predictable anti-union

paranoia and threw out the proposed

clause on the draft contract. In

actual fact, it was modelled on a

local authority contract, simply

union and clearly stating that:

"All wishing to join a union, should

The Union is only tolerated anyway

if it is limited to YOP supervisors.

join ASTMS". Hardly a closed shop!

Some OMAC staff who wanted to join

Council of Management wouldnt re-

Gunnell's fear of unionised super-

visors and staff is obious enough

in his most recent dispute. At the

moment, a volunteer who disagreed

would simply have to leave. An

ly under his thumb would pose a

and his bizarre conception of a

community arts centre's role.

with Gunnell's autocratic attitude

organised labour force not direct-

threat to his policies, his control,

were quickly informed that the

cognize their membership.

specifying preference for one

the draft was a mangament document

anyway; not a union one. Anthony

Ramsey(Chairman of the Building

No unions here

nonsense.

whilst being unable or unwilling to

Gunnell also said that the building scheme would be "consolidated" and "a tighter control over the YOPs maintained in future". What this actually means, however, is an expansion of the "useful" building scheme, at the expense of the "nonuseful" Special Category Group. The latter is the only scheme in Brighton providing help and instruction for under-achievers with no other prospects or provision. MSC money is still available if they find alternative sponsorship and premises, but from April OMAC will utilize its access to facilities and grants to further advance the building.

The work of supervisors and craftspeople will become more difficult in consequence as each will have to manage a larger number of trainees. YOP supervisors told us that OMAC's management committee had always resented schemes which didn't directly contribute to the development of the building. In other words, where the £400 per trainee provided for materials by MSC went into community arts projects instead of paint, bricks and mortar.



Play Resource Unit

This is the case with the Play Resource Unit, also to be axed in April. The decision is equally reprehensible, for it represented the Centre's only involvement in community arts. Robert Gunnell's answer to our queries on this issue was to say that the space they occupied was needed, without feeling it necessary to elaborate. Yet it's only two months since he led the PRU to understand that it would continue even after the building programme had ended! His change of mind came as a complete surpise to the PRU's supervisors and to Tim Fearon. The result is probably the end of a community arts group which has taken two and a half years to grow and develop links with other new groups all over Sussex.

Robert Gunnell has used his position at OMAC to ride roughshod over the ideas and aspirations of everyone else involved. Its ethos, nurtured under his shadow, manages at once to exclude the community and the arts. Indeed, the row which precipitated Tim Fearon's resignation occurred when Gunnell excluded trainees from the front of the building they'd

One of the problems has been Gunnell's Thatcherite conception of the arts; paying their own way, independent of local authority provision. Inevitably, while local firms and multinationals such as ITT, American Express and BP have all donated, the community has never really felt itself to be involved. Money has gone directly into the building, rather than artistic events which could have involved people and raised funds in turn, like the recent Carnival and Caberet for the Resources Centre.

It is a problem exacerbated by an unwieldy and almost impenetrable structure. The Voice's own enquiries were often met with a mixture of ignorance and downright obstruction.



How not to launch a project ...

If an individual or group does manage to reach OMAC's manager with his proposal, there is still a long way to go; involving submission and resubmission of a scheme from one committee to the next. Say a film night was planned such as the one on women in the detective film at the Friends Centre. First the Film Committee would be consulted, then, in turn, the Programme Committee, Finance Committee and Council of Management. But even if you got the project past this last hurdle, you'd discover on resubmission to the original committee responsible that Gunnell was chairman of the Film Committee as well as the Council of Management !!

Even in his role of manager, Tim Fearon felt the present arrangement was ridiculously top-heavy, pointing out that not only fresh projects from outside the Centre, but any project he himself wanted to initiate had to be approved by the Council of Management; meaning, of course, Robert Gunnell. He told us he'd always wanted a structured programme, with events related to other elements and the ability for forward planning - which is at present almost nonexistant.



Gunnell - the Art of Survival

The Voice asked Mr Gunnell for his response to these criticisms of his inefficient and dictatorial running. of the Centre. His inspired reply was: "Well, they've named a gallery after me, so I must be alright". Actually the original idea was for a plaque in the gallery, bearing the names of the Council of Management. This had to be rejected since many of those who contributed at the inception of the Centre had left in various previous ructions and would be unfairly excluded from this tribute. Mr Gunnell's name was there fore put forward as a compromise solution.

This story is indicative of OMAC's whole history; a history littered with disagreements and resignations which have finally left Robert Gunnell sole survivor, at the expense of the Arts Centre and its members.



they've named a

Throughout he has had the sense to identify himself with the Centre and all the good work that has been done there, whilst alienating his critics from the membership. Any attack on him is therefore an attack on OMAC itself, and supporters rally to the defence of both. Mr Gunnell is a desperate fighter and it's no surprise to the observer to find he is the only one left standing at the end of the present round of infighting.

But it's time members - and all interested parties - started asking what sort of a state OMAC must be in if the management committee's chairman finds it necessary to circulate amongst members a five-page document* defending his position, attacking his detractors, denying press reports and pleading for support.

* 'Cards on the Table', Jan 1981



It's difficult to know where to begin in the catalogue of failings and omissions which must be put right at

Like two engines running at variance, Arts Centre and YOPs damage rather than support one another. The result is a struggle which Gunnell and his Council of Management have inevitably won; to the detriment of OMAC's members, the trainees and the community as a whole.



Community involvement

"It has been brought to my attention two factors: 1) an impenetrable and complex bureaucratic machine, apparbeen used for the display of political ently designed solely to perpetuate its own authority; and 2) that, to no 'political material' can be disdate, OMAC's finances have depended individuals and firms. Council and to join the Arts Centre anyway and to make sure it works as a resource Such involvement will be necessary

if OMAC is to house the arts at all. One suspects that at present OMAC is reason to except this - they and an artistic vacuum because, having taken care to exclude the "wrong kind"of art, its Council of Management have discovered that in the late twentieth century, there isnt any other kind.



Membership and community involvement in general suffer as the result of on donations from a handful of community should contribute and ensure that OMAC is accountable to them. Only people's determination for them can solve this problem.



POLITICAL

in the

CENSORSHIP

SOCIAL SERVICES

Ken Young, the new boss of East

intent on stamping his personality

on the department - and the workers

Having been appointed by the tories

Sussex Social Services, seems

too, if they get in the way.

against the wishes of "Liberal"

Denis Allen, his predecessor, he

has begun his reign with a far-

reaching reorganisation, designed

clearly intending to leave workers

in no doubt who - and what sort of

stating that, horror of horrors,

establishments and offices may have

posters! He goes on to emphasis that

the moment) "trade union information"

The new instructions have stagg-

ered Social Services workers and are

generally seen as an attempt to cut

down "undesirable" ideas and info-

rmation and, at the same time to

out. If his general polices and

same pattern - and there is every

the public will be in for a rough

SEE "UNDERCURRENTS" FOR REVELATIONS

negotiations with staff follow the

warn those on the left to watch

played, reluctantly excepted (for

that the notice boards in some

A letter has gone to all managers

person - is in charge.

to cut jobs and services, and is

Artists in residence

The presence of professionals,

resident and visiting, would surely force a change in this attitude; as well as bringing in more money to fund new projects. Although there is no studio theatre yet, it is only total inflexibility which prevents the bar or gallery from being used for events, such as poetry and musical performance. There could be an artist in residence, as there is a potter in residence'. (The pottery and Dupoint Arts, incidentally, are the two successfully functioning, aut onomous units, notably free from the top-heavy committee structure.) .The artist would share his or her ideas and skills with the community in which they'd work.

At the same time, local involvement could be further stimulated by increasing, rather than reducing, community-based youth opportunities programmes. YOPs based on artsrelated skills, such as graphics and photography, would be introduced, even with present facilities.

IF BRIGHTON IS CAPABLE OF SUPPORTING THEATRE PRODUCTIONS, AN EXTREMELY HEALTHY ROCK SCENE, A FRINGE FESTIVAL, philosophical piece that keeping a AMATEUR ASSOCIATIONS, COMMUNITY THEATRE GROUPS AND, ONCE UPON A TIME, A FILM THEATRE; THEN IT DOES NEED AN ARTS CENTRE. OMAC IS EMPTY BECAUSE IT HAS FAILED; BECAUSE IT HAS BEEN TAKEN IN COMPLETELY THE WRONG DIRECTION BY A SELF-APPOINTED AND SELF-INTERESTED MINORITY; NOT BECAUSE IT ISN'T NEEDED. OMAC SHOULD BE A HOME FOR THE ARTS AND A CULTURAL RESOURCE FOR THE COM-MUNITY. THE PRESENT COUNCIL OF MAN-AGEMENT'S TOTAL MISCONCEPTION OF ITS

ROLE AND IRRELEVANT IDEAS OF ART -

TIME AND OUR NEEDS - MUST BE CHANGED.

ENTIRELY OUT OF KEEFING WITH OUR

keeping a straight face



There are times when it's very hard to keep a straight face when reading descriptions of new groups. Take the Campaign for the Feminine Woman for instance, which rages about something called 'Women's Lib'. The CFW accuses Women's Libbers' of demanding "maternity leave and beds for men" and forcing "men and women into mixed hospital wards".

Its when the CFW tries to write a straight face gets really difficult.

"Masculine dominance and feminine submissiveness are natural and good. Animals only copulate, but in human beings it is the intensification and development of the psychological and intellectual differences between men and women which has created the sophisticated emotions of beauty, love and romance, and put man so far above all other life on earth." There's pages of this drivel in their publicity leaflet. The CFW has a male president/founder(naturally) and a female secretary(equally naturally).

Being such conventional human beings they probably don't see the irony in their address being PO Box 69, Swindon.

Whitehawk Fights Back

The Whitehawk tenants 'get tough tactics' with Brighton Council (reported in BV no.73) are beginning to show results. In a well attended public meeting called by the tenants association before Christmas, the East Brighton Residents Association let the Council know that any failure by the Housing Department to carry out repairs would land them in court. To show that they meant business the tenants set up their own Advice Centre on the estate to collect tenants' complaints and take up cases with the Department.

The Association's Secretary, Andy Andrews, who takes up each complaint directly with the District Housing Office, says that Housing Management were 'terrified' by the thought of landing up in court. Now he says the Officers take tenant complaints seriously. Reports of repairs bring Officials round like a shot.

Of the 22 cases opened by the Assoc iation since December, 7 have already been dealt with by Housing, with the tenants being either rehoused or the repairs successfully completed. Work is continuing on the outstanding cases and complaints. If the Council dont carry out work when requested Mr Andrews insists that the matter will go to local solicitors who are prepared to take up cases. So far only one damages claim has been referred to solicitors for action. Most cases taken up so far have been on repairs, though it is clear that overcrowding is an increasing problem at Whitehawk. In the past the Council has miscalculated the demand for larger houses.

Repair problems are not just being found on the older houses; tenants report that even modernised houses are suffering from disrepair and occasionally shoddy work. As Andy Andrews notes:

"In the past when tenants have made a complaint the Council have sent up a private contractor, who has carried out a patch repair, and in a couple of months the problem has returned - our new approach is putting an end to

Many of the problems are to do with dampness and condensation, the remedies are expensive, but only worth carrying out if done properly, and with the correct installation of new damp proof courses (DPCs), insulation, good dry heating and proper ventilation. If the Council dont carry out the work, more of the older Whitehawk properties will become unfit for human habitation and a health hazard. Or as the Council's own report on the houses in November 1980 commented: 'The result of the survey clearly indicates that many of the houses are in need of extensive repairs or renewals. It is also clear from the nature of the defects that many of the houses have been in a state of disrepair for a long time'.

Andy Andrews says that the tenants have been arguing for years that a programme of insulation, ventilation and the provision of central heating would get rid of the widespread dampness and condensation problems on the estate. As he says, Ratepayers might think it "expensive in the short term, but in the long term it would be highly cost effective." " Meanwhile the repairs campaign is to continue. Tenants will be keptinformed by the tenants association's newsletter, which will come out 6 times a year, and a monthly factsheet which will list the latest repairs successes. Individual cases will of course remain confidential to those within the association, but sharing the news of succes will build-up the tenants confidence in their own ability to organise and win!

RENTS ROW LOOMS!

The Whitehawk tenants are also planning to mobilise tenants over the rents issue. The local Labour Party has called an open meeting on the Council's rent rises, which are planned to come into effect this April. Rises will on average add £3.25 to tenants rents. This will be the third rise for most tenants in 12 months. Rents are almost double what they were in May 1979. For an unmodernised Council house tenants will be asked to pay £17.00 a week, modernised homes will be £21.00, and the new houses and flats £26 to £28 per week. The tenants association believes that the Council is using rent rises as a way of trying to force tenants into buying their homes, when few tenants either want to or can afford to.

The tenants association wrote to the Housing Committee Chairman, Bob Christofoli (he who calls the belligerent Whitehawk tenants 'whinners') and demanded that rents be pegged. The tenants requested a report on rent levels and that comparisons be made with other Council tenants on a value for money basis. The tenants now believe that the report has been produced, but because it is embarassing to the Council is being buried never to see the light of day.

The Labour Party meeting on March 2 has the full support of the tenants association, and they hope that it will call for a rent strike or the withholding of the new proposed increase. The East Brighton Residents Association wants a massive show of strength by tenants on March 19, when the Housing Committee meets to ratify the rent proposals. As Andy Andrews

"We want to march on the Town Hall with thousands of tenants to give the Council the biggest fright we can. Feelings are running high on the rents and repairs situation on Whitehawk."

Tenants at Moulsecoomb and Hollingbury should take note.



sometimes a fifth of their disposable income on energy bills. The national Consumers Council last September reveal a hardening of attitudes withaverage is between 6 and 7%, with those on a low income, or in receipt . in the industry towards consumers of benefits, usually paying 13% of unable to pay their bills. A large their income over to the electricity increase in the number of disconnect ions within the Seeboard area, and gas suppliers. The disconnection showed national trends to be refigures may seem low, but they flected harshly in Brighton. suggest that many more of the Consumers in the Brighton area are country's poor are really struggling supplied by SEEBOARD, one of the to keep a supply. Boards with a better record on disconnections. However, even Seeboard

The Labour movement's response The last Labour Government did little for the poorest consumers, though the discount scheme offered to those receiving benefits did give aid to more of the needy than the present government's assistance plans. What is necessary from the Movement now is a more direct actionist approach. Working people should be protected from cut-offs by the trade unions who operate in the industries. This is best effected by the relevant unions refusing to carry out disconnections, and calling on the industry to collect its debts in a responsible and humane way, perhaps through the Small Claims or County Court procedure as any other public authority would have to. Trade union pressure should also be applied to the government and industry to force on it a more realistic pricing policy. This should be coupled with a massive investment by government and industry in insulation, both of homes and workplaces. Further expenditure should be made available to research into the better use of energy-using domestic appliances. Energy researchers have estimated that this approach to energy conservation could lead to a reduced demand and leave the country with an even larger over-capacity than exists at present. The nuclear age would then cease to

Cold

trom

"all large public bodies have wider social responsibilities and that the fuel industries, in particular, ought to operate in as civilised a manner as possible because of the importance of fuel in the lives of their customers." These sorts of arguments have so far fallen on deaf government and fuel industry ears. Sharp Rises

has now adopted a harder line on

cut-offs. In the 1979-80 statistical

year they cut-off 3,506 consumers,

an increase of 12.3% over the prev-

that were longterm (ie over 1 month)

the previous year. These rises are .

not so drastic as those recorded by

London Electricity Board, but they

are cause for concern. Only three

Electricity Boards managed to in-

other Boards, in particular the

of the twelve England and Wales

crease the % cut-off rate by a

higher level than Seeboard. The

cut-off 22,822 consumers in the

1979/80 year, nearly double the

previous year's number. All the

even that high number this year.

adoption within the fuel supply

because of Treasury cash supply

limitations being imposed. This

The election of the Thatcher

signs are that they will surpass

Government in May 1979 led to the

industries of a high price policy

was coupled with the reaffirmation

of commercial criteria within the

industries, and mouthings from

fuel board chairmen that social

considerations were secondary.

attitude of the Electricity

This contrasts strongly with the

Consumers Council which has argued

worst was undoubtedly the LEB who

ious year. The number of cut-offs

totalled 580, a rise of 7.4% over

Why the sharp rises? There are two reasons, the price and disconnections policy. In September 1980, electricity consumers were paying 50% more for their supply than they were in August 1979, and since 1974 the price of electricity has more than doubled. Price rises have consistently been greater than those needed to keep

apace with the inflation rate. The present government has justified its high price fuel policy by saying that there is a need to conserve energy. So far the government has done little to help domestic consumers or industry really save fuel by encouraging improved insulation the real way to conserve energy supplies - and worse, it has embarked on encouraging the fuel industry generally to invest in a high capital and environmental cost fuel technol-

ogy - Nuclear Power. Meanwhile it is the domestic consumer who has been made to bear the cost. The National Right to Fuel campaign have estimated that the poorest of the country's population are paying

be an attractive proposition - and

the old, cold, and disconnected

something of the past.

The Resource Centre Appeal is aimed at raising £9000 to replace capital equipment burnt in the fire. Recent events have included the benefit gig at Jenkinson's, and the Community Carnival and cabaret, which raised over £1000.

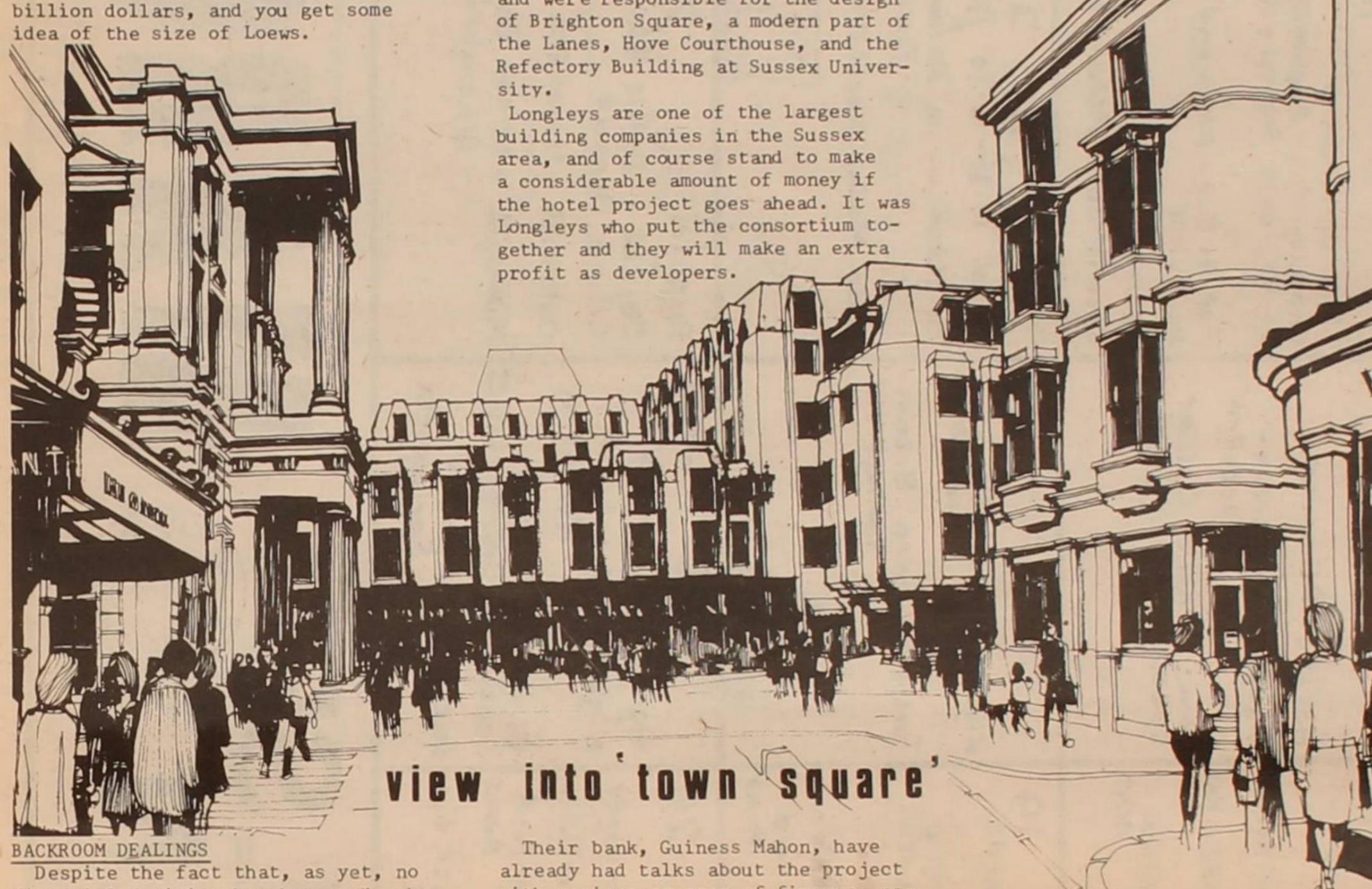
Altogether this means the Resource Centre now has £3000. Fund-raising is continuing; for example, Brighton Rook Records is donating all money taken on John Lennon records sold since his murder. A third of the profits from Vaultage 80 (available from Attrix Records) will go to the Centre. Individual donations should be sent to 'Resource Centre' c/o The Institute, Queen's Sq., Brighton.

The Centre is still looking for a building - in the centre of town, lots of rooms, very cheap. Any suggestions, ring B'ton 202492. A regular monthly newsletter is produced by the Resource Centre. If anyone would like to receive this, contact the Centre, who will be pleased to send you one.

and a multinational WE, CAN'T AFFORD contd. from front page

chartered architects, Longleys of Crawley, builders and developers, and Guiness Mahon, a Merchant Bank in the City of London. These arrangements have been discussed in Council, and few Councillors seem to know about the consortium.

Preliminary sketches of the proposed hotel (probably to be called the Churchill), have been produced by architect Brian Field, of Fitzroy, Simmons etc., and are reproduced on the front page. Fitzroy, Simmons etc. are well known in the Brighton area and were responsible for the design of Brighton Square, a modern part of the Lanes, Hove Courthouse, and the Refectory Building at Sussex University.



Despite the fact that, as yet, no financial decision has been taken by the full Council to go ahead with the scheme, arrangements for financing and building the hotel have already been made with a consortium consisting of Fitzroy, Simmons, Miller, Bourne 7 Partners of Hove,

If large profits are there for the

making, then surely Loews would not

want to share them! It is not as if

Loews could not afford the construc-

tion costs - research by the Brighton

Voice shows that Loews is one of the

porations in the USA, with assets of

almost 9 billion dollars, and a re-

1980, of just over 4 billion dollars.

venue in the financial year, 1979/

Compare this with AmericanExpress

revenue in the same period of 42

largest diversified financial_cor-

If such a huge multinational corporation can only be tempted to take on the running of Brighton's 1 luxury hotel if the Council takes on most of the risks, financially, then we can only suppose they think it's a poor prospect. Interestingly, none of the Councillors contacted by Brighton Voice had any idea of Loews' size, and the best any of them could come up with was that Loews was an "American Entertainment Concern." Had the Councillors who voted in favour of the hotel been told Loews' true size they too might have asked the same questions as Brighton Voice, and come to the same conclusions.

with various sources of finance, notably the large pension funds, and it has been suggested that the largest of them all, the Post Office Union pension fund, is interested in putting up money for the hotel. The pension funds tend to shy away from high-risk projects and favour instead safe investments with lower returns. The hotel project would be ideal in this respect since a loan to Brighton Council would be backed in the final analysis by Brighton's ratepayers.

A BAD DEAL FOR BRIGHTON Tory leader Bob Cristofoli, a firm supporter of the hotel scheme, is very fond of saying to whoever is willing to listen, that the hotel will not cost the Council and the ratepayer a penny, since it will be built with a loan. But this, as he well knows, is only a half-truth. Although full details of the finan-

Fortunately for Brighton, there is now some doubt whether the project will ever get off the ground at all . The Labour Party has now instructed its Councillors to vote against the hotel next time it comes up for discussion. Since all but one of them voted for the hotel first time round, this is a little embarrassing for them, to say the least, but it does reflect well on the sense of the grassroots of the Party on this issue that they disagreed with their councillors. There is also talk of a few defections amongst the Tories, which could make it a close contest. Perhaps a long and loud protest by the people of Brighton could help

tip the balance.

All wired up for COMPUTERISED WELFARE BENEFITS INFORMATION SERVICE NHAT? cial arrangements have not yet been People in Brighton can take released, it seems clear that Brighton advantage of a novel form of welfare Council stand to make a considerable loss. If the profits from the hotel

fall below the level of the interest

make on the loan from the City, then

repayments which the Council must

Brighton could end up with a mill-

stone round its neck almost as big

as the Marina.

benefits information service during the next few months. A microcomputer programmed with details of eligability for benefits and the calculations used in assessing eligability, has been made available for public use in a building normally occupied by Brighton Social Services

Department in Princes Street, The computer asks users questions about their financial and personal circumstances, does the mecessary calculations, and then prints an estimate of the benefits users are likley to claim successfully. The user can take away the printed sheet, and no records about users are kept in the

The programme covers supplementary benefits, Family Income Supplement, Rate Rebates, Rent Rebates and allowances, Free school meals, and many others, except benefits dependant on National Insurance Contributions. Although it takes the average user about half an hour to go through it may save much more than that in unsucessful claims. The computer also does several calculations simultaniously, and will be able to indicate to users the benefits on which they would be better off. Unfortunatly, the programme cannot cover students as they are treated as a special case for almost every benefit.

The computer is the result of a research project undertaken by Surrey University, and its use in Brighton is part of a field trial, its effectiveness will be evaluated in terms of the importance of confidentially to people seeking advice on benefits; the advantages or disadvantages of using a computer compared to providing a personal service; the accuracy of the information, and last but not least, the effect on the take-up of benefits.

The computer is available on Tuesdays and Thursdays and appointments can be made by phoning or calling in to the Social Services Department in Princes Street.



Rod Fitch continued ...

at Xmas when families finding it difficult to make ends meet watch kids toys advertised on TV which are beyond most people's pockets. So its not just women who are exploited, its all of

BV. How do working people fight back? Have th ngs got to get worse before they get better?

RF. The fight back doesn't come at the stage of mass unemployment because apathy is too entrenched. It will come with the slight upturns in the economy - which will come. The 150,000 marching in Liverpool, employed marching alongside unemployed. Soon to be repeated in Glasgow. It's important to show strength like this around the country rather marching from Hyde Park to Trafalgar Sq. on a Sunday afternoon, when few can see. There's been numerous marches against cuts the one in Brighton, the biggest since 1926, 3000 people on May 14th was really spectacular without any national leadership. The movement will move forward learning from its set-backs but will

ain assistance from parliamentary struggle which will have to take place - there's no question of that. Mass action can back this up. socialism cannot develop without activity at all levels. Feople have to be drawn in. I'm optimistic. The tories are attempting to smash the TUs, in some areas they are succeeding but elsewhere the fightback is beginning. People are going to want to regain their lost ground and that's one reason why the tories have settled with the miners. Thatcher's frightened. She could have taken the miners on but in doing so she would have unlocked the door. The problem is the movement is looking for some lead but the fault lies with the leadership for not giving it. Thatcher has refused to talk to the TuC. What do they do? They continually ask for talks! They should be out in the country organising.

Council Housing-the Socialist solution

BV. Given that Brighton has less than half the national average of council housing stock for a town of a comparable size, what kind of measures would you see fit to remedy this position.

RF. I think that housing will be a major question, particularly because of the Tory policies that have been adopted in the last few months. The massive cutting of council house building, the virtual collapse of the building industry as a whole, and millions of bricks stockpiled. Obviously, its going to be a question of both local and national policies. However, everything is there to solve the housing problem. We have to nationalise the building industry and suppliers and probably the banks and insurance companies as well so that we can finance a building programme. People say the nationalisation won't go down well. Well ask the 250,000 building workers now on the dole. A guarantee of jobs for the rest of their lives would ensure their support of nationalisation, such is the extent of the housing problem. There has been virtually nil growth in council house building this year. Rebuilding Whitehawk is obviously a crucial issue. After being cut by the government it has just been started again - but not the complete phase. Some people are going to be living in those conditions for the next 10 years, at the present rate of Tory government plans. We need bold measures in Brighton.

Local authorities should be encouraged to municipalise empty houses. Not taking people's houses away from them, but where an

individual might own 10 or 20 houses and some are empty, then there should be some compulsary purchase. We should start to solve some of the real problems, for example Bed and Breakfast. Landlords get paid generously by the DHSS to keep families over night. They are then turned out onto the streets the next morning. Its a disgrace that this kind of thing is allowed to continue.

Unfair Points System There are something like 1000 empty properties locally with 1,700 people on the waiting list. The waiting list itself is unfair, it doesnt include many people who dont qualify under the points system. The real figure is nearer 3,000 people. I helieve facilities should be made available to single people who should have the right to a decent house. There are the properties available and the means available; with a positive move from a labour government these problems could be solved.

BV. Thank you for answering our questions. There are many areas we haven't yet covered like civil liberties, defence, energy, Northern Ireland etc. but perhaps we can come back to you in the future and review what you have said and look at further areas normally confused by the commercial press.

KIDS'KARNIVAL KIDS'KARNIVAL & ENVIRO FAIR

University of Sussex

SATURDAY JUNE 6TH, 1981

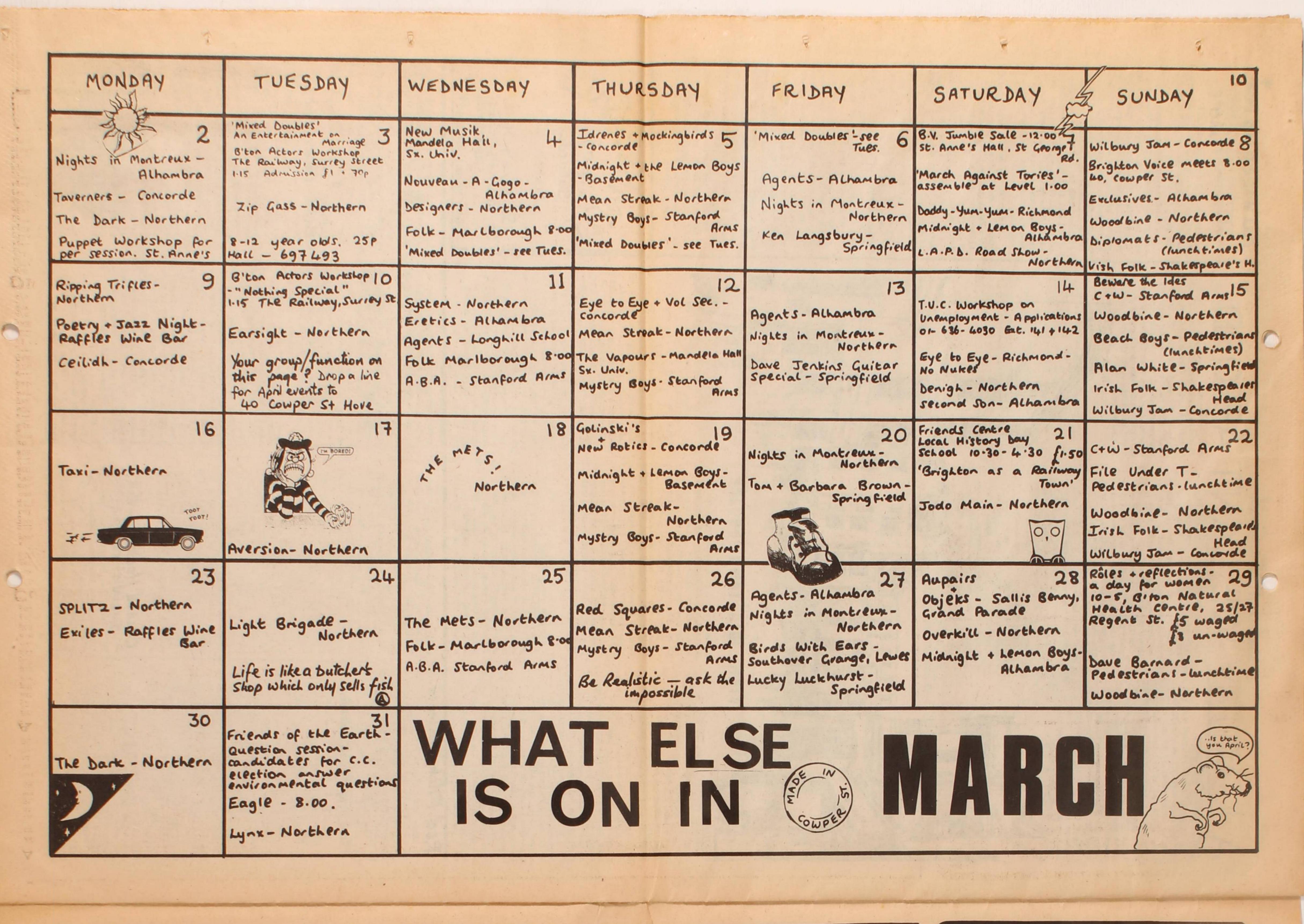
Now in its tenth year, the Fair will be the usual mixture of free events for children, (theatre groups, games, trainrides, etc.), and "enviro" groups who will be having stalls to publicise their activities.

If you'd like to have a stall to publicise your group, please write to us and we'll put you on the list, and send you a booking form very soon.

The Fair is organised by LINK*UP



Student community Action Falmer House Sussex University



Adult Education Elderly

AWL VISUALS, 22 Vere Rd, Brighton. arts skills exchange.

FRIENDS CENTRE: voluntary adult education centre; meeting space. 16 Ship Street. tel 27835 WORKERS EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION tel 680654

EVENING CLASSES - a huge variety run by, for example, the council, technical college, Polytechnic and Univ. Details: Education office, York Buildings.

Arts

BRIGHTON ARTS FOUNDATION: c/o Muzart, 12 York Place. tel 608232. Working & exhibition space for local artists. BRIGHTON OPEN STUDIOS: 166 Kings Arches (seafront). Tel 608559. Local artists share space & exhibitions. COMMUNITY ARTS WORKSHOP: St Anne's Hall, St George's Rd, Kemptown. tel 697493. Classes & performances in dance, drama, all performing arts. NORTH STAR STUDIOS: 65 Ditchling Rd, tel 601041. Shared facilities for photography, silkscreen, etching, etc.

Community

RIGHTON & HOVE COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE: c/o Rights Centre. see advice section. Van service stopped. 202492. LINK-UP: Sussex University community action, Falmer House, University of Sussex. tel 680380 COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS

BRUNSWICK C.A.: Landsowne Centre. tel 735928 HANOVER C.A.: self-build community HOLLINGDEAN C.A.: tel 509887 KNOLL C.A.: tel 413749

centre, 33 Southover St. tel 694873 MOULSCOOMBE C.A.: 67 Centre. Tel 682428

NORTH LAINE C.A.: Julie Skoging 26 Tidy Street. QUEEN'S PARK C.A.: Jon Bellos, 33a Egremont Place WEST HILL C.A.: tel 21359 COMMUNITY CENTRES JEWISH SOCIAL CENTRE: tel 737012 PATCHAM C.C.: Ladies Mill Road, Patcham. tel 502188 WHITEHAWK C.C.: tel 686793 OTHER COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS CARTWHEEL: trying to set up a village

community using traditional skills. 11 George Street, Btn. tel 694600 EIGHBOURHOOD CARE GROUP: tel 721402 PAROSI: Multi-cultural organisation. c/o Friends Centre, Ship St. TOY LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION (Btn & Hove) c/o 99a Ditchling Rise

Disabled

AGE CONCERN see Advice section DISABLED CHILDREN'S TOY LIBRARY: open alt Wed and Sat mornings, St Gabriel's LESBIAN GROUP: Jill tel 696298 Family Centre, Wellington Rd. 605040 DISABLED HOUSING TRUST: tel 737357 am DISABLED INCOME GROUP: to help disabled people to obtain benefits, entitlements etc. Mrs D Woolacott, tel 415886 MENCAP: Brighton, Hove & District Soc. for Mentally Handicapped Children & Adults. Day centre, holiday home, outings, 1 Chesham Place, tel 696523 FOR INFORMATION ON OTHER GROUPS: Brighton & Hove Federation of the Disabled, @ Brighton voluntary service centre, 17 Ditchling Rise. tel 692664

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AGE CONCERN: see advice section HELP THE AGED: tel 552838 SUNDAY NIGHT CLUB: "For lonely people who want to relax in a friendly atmosphere", meets every Sunday night at Central Free Church, Institute Hall Queen's Square. Tel 730369 TUC PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION: tel 504147 FOR INFORMATION ON OTHER GROUPS AND CURRENT EVENTS read LINK UP, free quarterly magazine. See pubns section.

ANTI LOW PAY GROUP: tel Kevin 682295 or Andrew, Lewes 77499

(ABBA): Peter Gavan, 20 Wish Road, Hove. tel 417228 ANTI-NUCLEAR CAMPAIGN: Tony 27845 BEE KEEPERS ASSOCIATION (Brighton & Lewes): L Hawkins, 14 The Lees, Peacehaven. tel P'haven 4522 BRICYCLES: Brighton Cycling Campaign, meet 2nd Tue of month, The Eagle, Gloucester Rd. Secretary, tel 723894 Selma Montford, 10 Claremont Road. tel 509209 CAMPAIGN FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT(CND):

HUNT SABOTEURS ASSOCIATION: PO Box 19, Tonbridge, Kent S.A.N.D. (Sussex Alliance for Nuclear Disarmament): co-ordinating body for disarmament/peace groups in Sussex. E Daffern, 187 Eastern Rd. tel 681181 SERA (Socialist Environment & Resources Association): c/o Resource Centre 202492. SURVIVAL ACTION MOVEMENT (anti nuclear weapons): Brighton group tel 694369 TRANSPORT 2000 SOUTHERN: Dave Sumner, 208 Littlehampton Rd, Worthing. tel (work) Worthing 200471 WORKING WEEKENDS ON ORGANIC FARMS (WWOOF): 19 Bradford Rd, Lewes FOR INFORMATION ON OTHER GROUPS AND CURRENT EVENTS read OYEZ!, free bimonthly newsletter. See pubns section

Gay

MPAIGN FOR HOMOSEXUAL EQUALITY 8-10 pm tel 690825 GAY CHRISTIANS: Martin tel 680868 GAY RURAL AID & INFO NETWORK (GRAIN) : Clyde Oliver, 69 North St, Lewes

Health~Alternative

ACUPUNCTURISTS: Peter Deadman, Lewes 77996; Julian Scott, 33 Surrenden Crescent. tel 559379; Clinic of Chinese Acupuncture, 6 Old Steine. Tel 696716 ANOXERIC AID: see advice section CANCER PREVENTION (Area Health Authority) tel 23344 COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCIL: see advice sect FAMILY PLANNING CLINIC: New Sussex Hospital, York Ave entrance. tel 736255

NATURAL HEALTH CENTRE: Regent Street

SMOKING ADVICE CENTRE: tel 23344

PARKINSON'S DISEASE SOCIETY: tel 25821

CLAIMANTS UNION: self-help for benefit claimants. Contact Rights Centre. RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN: 19 Elm Grove

Environment

ANTI BRIGHTON "BYPASS" ASSOCIATION ANIMAL AID: Paul Crooks. Worthing 208807 BRIGHTON SOCIETY: environmental pressure

Kate Soper and Martin Ryle, tel 689459 ECOLOGY PARTY see Politics section FRIENDS OF THE EARTH: Sec Dave Hall 18 Bath St, B'tn. tel 28003.

GAY SWITCHBOARD: info & advice. PO Box 449. tel 690825 8-10 pm & 3-10 pm Sat

Medicine

HOMEOPATH: Robert Withers, Portland Centre, Preston Street. tel 27464

Housing

BRIGHTON HOSTEL: for single homeless men. Volunteers needed in evenings. 18 Dorset Gardens. Tel-682089 FIRST BASE: day centre for homeless & isolated people. Advice, tea, cheap food, baths. Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri 10.00 am - 3.30pm. 22 Stanford Road. FEDERATION OF TENANTS ASSOCIATIONS (Brighton): 72 Swanborough Place. HOUSING ADVICE CENTRE: see advice section HOUSING ASSOCIATIONS: contact Housing Advice Centre. RENT TRIBUNAL: rent disputes, security

of tenure, etc. 137 Preston Road. tel 509726 TWO PIERS HOSUING CO-OP; collective

ownership and control of housing for young single people. Natalya Belcher, c/o 9 Grange Rd, Lewes. Tel Lewes 2029 SUSSEX HOUSING MOVEMENT: "revitalised Btn & Hove Squatters Union". 693447

Music

ATTRIX RECORDS: 3 Sydney Street. Local record label & shop selling partic other small labels, magazines. Also what's on noticeboard. CONCORDE BAR, Aquarian (seafront). Local bands every Thurs (& occ others) NO-NUKES MUSIC: tel 27845 or 604310

Parent~Child

GINGERBREAD: self-help pressure group for one parent families. Basement, 6 Marlborough Place. Mon-Thurs 10am-2pm. Tel 697208 or 688661 (not mornings) NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE SINGLE WOMAN AND HER DEPENDENTS: tel 500935 PARENTS HELPLINE: 24 phone in: 688633 PARENTS WITHOUT PARTNERS: outings, entertainment for children and adults - divorced, widowed, separated. Meets 3-5.30pm in Lansdowne Centre, Lansdowne Place, Hove. Tel 420320 WORKING ASSOCIATION OF PARENTS (WAM) beby sitting, social events, crechés etc. Brenda 553247.

Politics 1.parties/groups

COMMUNIST PARTY OF BRITAIN (Marxist-Leninist): 37 Gloucester Rd. Tel 684404 COMMUNIST PARTY OF GREAT BRITAIN: Pearl Goffin, 95a St George's Rd. tel 687336 CO-OPERATIVE PARTY: Brighton: 86 London Rd. tel 683076; Hove: J Cattell, 29 Foredown Rd, Portslade ECOLOGY PARTY: Ian Shearer, 39A Upper Rock Gardens, tel 609891. See Oyez for contacts in other Sussex areas FABIAN SOCIETY: George Forbes, 66 Meadow Lane, Burgess Hill. tel B'Hill LABOUR PARTY: Brighton 179 Lewes Rd. Hove 40 Cowper St. Lewes 3 North St

LABOUR PARTY YOUNG SOCIALISTS: Brighton c/o 179 Lewes Rd; Hove Clive Walder 120 Clarendon Rd tel 722218; Lewes A. Bryant 16 Willow Walk, Newhaven. tel 6299 LIBERAL PARTY: Pavilion F. Hix 14a Ship St. tel 25315 day 26560 eve; Kemptown A Frampton 32 Brownleaf Rd tel 36817; Hove & Portslade J McCormack, 11 Wellington Ave, Hove, tel 738462 NEW COMMUNIST PARTY: M Chaplin 83 Edburton Avenue SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY: 19 Elm Grove YOUNG LIBERALS: c/o D Rogers 8 Guild-

ford St. tel 26011 YOUTH C.N.D. (Brighton) c/o 167 Preston Drove, BN1 6FN.

2. local campaigns

BRIGHTON ALTERNATIVES TO PRISON PROJECT(BAPP): see advice section GEORGE STREET AREA SOCIETY (Save George Street Campaign): Howard Allaway, 7 Steine Gdns. tel 693763 HUMANIST GROUP (BRIGHTON & HOVE) : Meets first Sun of month at Queen's Head, Queen's Road. Details: W McIlroy 32 Over St. tel 696425 KINGSCLIFFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY: 18 Bedford Street PRESTON CIRCUS ASSOCIATION: Celia Mather 39 Stanley Road. tel 691771 PROJECT ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND: trying to raise £10,000 for an adventure playground in the Hove area. George 737357 and Carol 411565 SAVE THE FAMILY PLANNING CLINICS CAMPAIGN: c/o F,P.A., 13a Western Road. tel 774075

WEST PIER SOCIETY: shop open daily West Pier, Kings Rd. Tel Treasurer 26186(evgs) or George Sparkes 737357(am)

3.other campaings ~groups

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL (Btn & Hove group) Colin or Mary 400832 ANTI-APARTHEID MOVEMENT: 179 Lewes Rd ANTI-FASCIST COMMITTEE: 179 Lewes Rd ANTI-NAZI LEAGUE: c/o Resource Centre BRIGHTON UNION FOR DEVELOPMENT: Oxfam 31 Western Rd, Hove. EDUCATION FIGHTBACK: fight for an education that's worth defending. c/o Resources Centre . tel 202492 INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE (Btn): 21A Granville Rd, Hove. tel Chris 722487 LEGALISE CANNABIS CAMPAIGN: tel 608528 RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN: tel 688633 UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION: exists to promote the work and ideals of the U.N.

Nancy Dore, 157 Surrenden Rd. tel 501370 Publications

BRIGHTON LABOUR NEWS! c/o 179, Lewes Road INDEPENDENT LABOUR PUBLICATIONS: Gary Kent.tel 558070 LIBRARIANS FOR SOCIAL CHANGE: journal for radical librarians. PO Box 450, Btn LINK UP: free quarterly magazine on natural health and related subjects. Inc. diary of events. From participating groups or £1 to Dawn Welmans, Link-Up mailing list, Little Sele, New Rd, Upper Beeding, West Sussex. WAYBILL: newsheet of T.G.W.U. 1/402 Btn & Hove district buspeople, from Conway St Depot. BANDSTAND : Bedford & Norfolk Community Assn. c/o Flat5, 4 Bedford Sq. OYEZ: Sussex environmental what's on and directory. Free bi-monthly. Court House, The Green, Rottingdean, Btn. Tel. 31083

QUEENSPARK: c/o 13 West Drive. Paper for the Queen's Park area. QUICKSILVER MESSENGER, the south-east magazine of earth mysteries. 26a Wilbury Ave, Hove. Tel. 733471 RUBICON: new magazine, first issue in February. 11 George St. Btn. Tel 694600 SEAGULL: non-sexist, non-racist comic for kids, 24 Gladstone Place.

Self~help

FRIENDS OF THE WESTERN BUDDHIST ORDER: Meditation teaching, yoga, communicat-·ion exercise. No charge. 7.15pm Wed meditation. Thurs Hatha yoga. tel. 698420 GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS: tel 503715 HOVE DIVORCED & SEPARATED CLUB: tel 776430 MEN AGAINST THE PATRIARCHY: for men

struggling against sexism. David tel. 692367 MERLIN WORK COLLECTIVE: property repairs, domestic & secretarial work, transport, tutoring, mechanics, electrics, disco. Over 40 skills available. Tel. Btn 26506, Ringmer 812962, Lewes 4173 MIND: ex-psychiatric patients group. Tel. 730369

S.H.A.R.E.: for parents of the mentally handicapped. tel. 416468 SCHIZOPHRENIA NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP (Brighton & Hove branch): tel 33824

PRINTING: Resource Centre Print Unit will be back in operation soon ... DUPLICATING: the following offer duplicating facilities: Gay Switchboard at 694379; Friends Centre (see adult edn section); Infinity Foods (see food shops); Carden Youth Wing, Carden Ave, tel 558897; Childbirth Trust, tel 71922; Resource Centre, tel 202492 TRANSPORT: Resource Centre van no longer operating; Whole Earth Removals, tel 26506 (Merlin)

Shops

1.food

FOOD FOR FRIENDS: Prince Albert St vegetarian restaurant INFINITY FOODS: 23-25 North Road. Wholefoods, retail, bakery & wholesale. Closed Weds. tel 603563 SAXONS VEGETARIAN RESTAURANT: 48 George St, Btn. tel 680733. Mon-Thurs 11.30-4.45, Fri-Sat 11.30-3 & 7.15-10.15 SIMPLE SUPPLIES: 11 George St, Btn. Mon-Sat 9.30-5.30, except Thurs 1.30 Wholefoods. Tel 694600. SUNRISE VEGETARIAN RESTAURANT: 16 North Rd. Open noon-5pm THREE ROOMS CAFE: Blatchington Rd, Hove. Vegetarian, open 10-3.

PUBLIC HOUSE: 21 Little Preston St.

tel 28357. Mon-Sat 10.15-5.30 SOISTICE: 28 Trafalgar St. tel WORKERS BOOKSHOP: 37 Gloucester Rd. Sat 10-4pm ODD VOLUME BOOKSHOP: Secondhand books, brought & sold 53 Upper Glouster Road Btn.

3.others

ATTRIX: see music section QUEENSPARK: 33 Egremont Place, tel 690428. Local community shop. WINDHORSE EMPORIUM: 18-19 George St. Btn. tel 693971. Clothes & jewellry. Buddhist books.

LATE ENTRY ... LATE ENTRY ... Complete self-knowledge through Ishvara's Meditation. Introductory talks every Thursday, 7.30p.m. 103 Ditchling Road, or phone Brighton 692069/309510.

This information page is designed to provide basic advice and information, for and about individuals and groups trying to obtain greater control over their own lives. In the first section you will find names and telephone numbers of groups who can help or involve you in the long term. The advice section contains groups specifically or mainly designed to give advice, while the emergency section is for what it says. Some groups appear in more than one section; this is because they perform a range of functions.

SO READERS ARE ASKED TO LET US KNOW ABOUT ANY MISTAKES OR OMISSIONS. We believe this fills a need in Brighton - please help us to keep it up to date.

ARRESTED - RELEASE: 01-6038654 SAMARITANS - 772277

PARENTS HELPLINE - 688633 ROYAL SUSSEX COUNTY HOSPITAL - 60661.

Trade Unions

TRADES AND LABOUR CLUB: meeting place for trades unionists.16 Lewes Rd. tel 601101 TRADES UNION COUNCIL (Brighton Hove & District): Sec, John Marger, 30 Jersey St,B'tn.Tel685055(eve)736244(day)

Women BIRTH CENTRE (Btn): info & support group. Pregnancy, birth & early infant child care. Yoga in pregnancy classes & infant swimming classes. Tel 689194 BRIGHTON LESBIAN GROUP: Jill 696298

TUC PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION: tel 504147

NATIONAL ABORTION CAMPAIGN: c/o Women's Centre PREGNANCY ADVISORY CENTRE: see advice section WIDOWS CLUB: 47 Tivoli Crescent, Dyke

Rd. Meet 8pm fourth Wed of each month Unitarian Hall, Lewes Rd. WOMEN'S AID: refuge for battered women. Contact Women's Centre WOMEN'S CENTRE: 11 George St, Btn. tel 694600. see advice section. WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE & FREEDOM: tel 684604 and Lewes 4161 WOMEN'S LIBERATION: meet at Women's Centre every third Monday. Info tel

WOMEN'S VOICE: based on W.V. paper. tel Sue 21260 WORKING ASSOCIATION OF PARENTS: see Parent/child section

Youth

SHOREHAM YOUTH WORKSHOP: The Barn, St Julian Lane, Shoreham. tel 593535 SUSSEX YOUTH ASSOCIATION: tel 682282 FOR OTHER YOUTH CLUBS/ASSOCIATIONS: tel 29801

THROUGH LACK OF RESOURCES WE ARE UNABLE TO KEEP THIS PAGE COMPLETELY UP TO DATE.

GAY SWITCHBOARD- 690825 8-10 pm daily 3 -10 pm sats. NSPCC - 553334

> AGE CONCERN: Old people's welfare/ advice. 57 Ditchling Rd. Mon-Fri .0-12.30 & 2-4. tel 683275 NOREXIC AID: Penny: 775084, Jane: 734862, Rosemary: 507912 BRIGHTON ALTERNATIVES TO PRISON PROJECT(BAPP): info & advice, employment counselling, literacy and numeracy for those at risk of going to prison. tel 25998/551400 CAMPAIGN FOR HOMOSEXUAL EQUALITY see Gay section CITIZEN'S ADVICE BUREAU: Brighton -

17 Ditchling Rise Mon-Fri 10-4, Tues 6-8pm. 2 St George's Place Mon-Fri 10-1, 2-4. Tel 601664 Hove - Town Hall, Tisbury Rd: Mon/ Wed/Fri 10-12.30 & 2.15-4pm. Tue, Thurs 10-4pm. tel 734811 COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCIL: advice o hassles with the N.H.S. (Btn) 33824, CONSUMER PROTECTION DEPT: tel 681118 HOUSING ADVICE CENTRE(COUNCIL): 73

Grand Parade: Mon-Fri: 9-4.30pm. Tel LABOUR WEEKLY ADVICE CENTRE: 10.30-11.30 am. 79 Lewes Rd

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES Tel Brighton 501362. Mail ONLY c/o 21 Little Preston St. PREGNANCY ADVISORY SERVICE (B.P.A.S.) Pregnancy testing, counselling, abortions, vasectomies. Wistons, 138 Dyke Rd. tel 509726 RENT TRIBUNAL: Rent, landlord/tenant disputes, security of tenure. 137 Preston Rd. tel 506381 RIGHTS CENTRE: Central free church, 1.30-2 and 5.30-7pm. tel 202492 WOMEN'S CENTRE: 11 George St. Btn.

Queen Square. Tues 5.30-7pm, Thurs tel 694600. Mon-Fri 11-2pm. Sat 10-4pm WRITEHAWK ADVICE CENTRE: in community centre. Alt' Weds, Mar 4th, 18th Apr 1st 15th. 7.00pm-9.00pm.