

Oh! we did like to be beside the sea-side



Forty-five OAPs from De Beauvoir were able to enjoy the sea & sunshine at Southend recently, the result of an anonymous donation, plus a gift of money from the New Town Tenants Association. We left a cool misty London and didn't expect the weather to improve, but by the time we arrived at Southend it was lovely & everyone could sit on the front and sunbathe.

The party split up and went their separate ways for the remainder of the afternoon, but met up again at 4.30 for high tea -- which went down well. This left a couple of hours before the return journey. Southend was at its best for the outing: it was fairly quiet, being mid-week & almost out of the holiday season and we spent the rest of the time walking slowly along the front enjoying the late afternoon sun.

It was a lively drive home -- thanks to the ladies in the back seats who sang songs from music hall days. By the time we reached London everyone was full of how much they had enjoyed themselves and what a good idea it had been. Very many thanks go to the anonymous donor who suggested it in the first place and to the Tenants' Association for the £25 which helped pay for it.
LIZ FLETCHER

May I, on behalf of all of us of St Martins Court, express our most grateful thanks for the lovely day which you have given us in Southend and for the very good tea which everyone enjoyed very much. Even the weather was most kind to us. The sun came out just before we reached Southend and stayed until we came home. Every one of us had an enjoyable day. LILY ALLEN.

Editor's note: We hope to organise an evening out at Christmas for the old people of De Beauvoir. Please send your donations to Mrs Fletcher, at 74 De Beauvoir Road.

People worried about the cost of fire precautions which the Council wants in the central area may be able to save money by using "intumescent" paint on doors instead of asbestos lining. The GIA Committee has asked the Engineer's Department to report back on this. We'll report back too. You can also get grants or special loans from the Council which you don't pay back till you move, sell your house, etc. Mr Richards, improvement officer, at 146 De Beauvoir Rd will explain and help you.

Ward councillor Jim Warner did a grand job in getting Hackney's engineer's department to repair the badly cracked pavement on the east side of De Beauvoir Rd only a week after complaints were sent to him about accidents to old ladies there. Well done Jim - now what about the west side?

SOUTHERN AREA Public Inquiry Soon

Peter Walker, the secretary of state for the environment, has ordered a public inquiry before he takes a decision on Hackney Council's resolution to rescind the De Beauvoir southern area General Improvement Area (GIA). The inquiry, at which local people will have the right to have their say, is likely to be held in late October or early November.

Coun Ken Wilson, chairman of Hackney's housing management committee, and Coun John Hulstrom (ward) met a group from the Southern Area Action Group (SAAG) on Sep 21. Coun Wilson said the Council's wish to rescind the GIA sprang from fear of speculation in housing in the area. The Council wanted mixed redevelopment & improvement, plus open space to meet the needs of the New Town estate, in the area. To this end the Council has called in a firm of private consultants to survey housing conditions.

SAAG spokesmen feared that the consultants would just draw lines round houses or roads recommending demolition or improvement with no consultation with the people who lived in them. Coun Wilson gave an undertaking that the SAAG planning team's final report -- now almost complete -- would be given equal weight in the deliberations of the Council's policy-makers. It was pointed out this report was based on full public participation & debate.

Coun Wilson agreed to try & arrange a meeting at which the Council's policy-makers could attend an exhibition (with film slides) of the SAAG team's proposals similar to the exhibitions given at the series of street meetings held throughout the southern area during July & August. At the meeting SAAG would also further explain the proposal to set up a development group of Council officers to be based

locally in De Beauvoir Town to deal with problems arising from redevelopment and improvement throughout all De Beauvoir, including the New Town estate. SAAG thinks such a group (of architect, planner, housing manager, social worker, admin secretary) would cost no more than a similar set of officers working from Mare Street. The group would be immediately available for local people and could act quickly on such matters as decanting people within the area (as necessary to facilitate redevelopment & improvement schemes). It would be able to meet people's personal needs.

RUSH AND HURRY

Southern area residents gave general approval to the planning team's plans at the July/August street meetings. The valuable feedback from their criticisms and suggestions will form an important part of the team's final report -- which will be out by mid-October. An explanation of the main proposals in the report, together with the latest news on the public inquiry, will be given to southern area residents at a mass meeting in the crypt of St Peters Church on October 20. The same meeting will be electing 2 representatives to the central area GIA Steering Committee.

It now looks as if there will be some firm ideas about the future of the area before Christmas -- just 12 months since SAAG was set up. Unfortunately the previous Council hurried through a botched-up GIA proposal (after a pretty thorough survey of the houses by the borough's own public health inspectors) and the present Council is now rushing through a second report. We must make sure that the Council takes a breather -- and allows residents their say.

FRANK FLETCHER



SHOCK: Rebuilding Plan

STOP PRESS: Hackney's housing development committee plans 212 Council dwellings by 1974 in the southern area - which seems to mean an early start (given time for acquisition, demolition, etc). The plans were being recommended to the Council as we went to press last Thursday (Sep 30).

The immediate reaction of the Southern Area Action Group (SAAG) was of shock and disappointment. 212 dwellings seems to indicate a large-scale redevelopment - of perhaps a third to half of the southern area. Add to that the Council's already expressed intention to provide open space in the area - and what is left?

Council Minutes state: "Parts of the area have, with property already owned by the Council, been included within the new building programme. A further survey of De Beauvoir South has been commissioned to ascertain which parts of the area could be redeveloped & which resuscitated."

Does this mean the Council is anticipating its new survey? When the Minutes say

parts of the area have been included in the building programme, do they mean subject to consulting local people? And particularly the people in these parts?

We are also worried by the implication that the new building will be based on "property already owned by the Council." Hackney owns sound houses in the area which should not be demolished. If they are kept & improved they would help keep the social balance of the neighbourhood & could house local people. Many of the tenants want to stay in the area.

SAAG will seek immediate explanation of what is involved in these plans. SAAG are astonished to see what appears to be a firm commitment to an immediate & large-scale building programme in the area when the talks with Coun Wilson the week before seemed to indicate that redevelopment would be the outcome of the present survey consideration of the second SAAG report, and full public consultation. They've got the cart before the horse.

FOOTBALL 1971/2

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LETTERS

TAXI RANKS IN FILE

Every day there seem to be about 30 taxis parked in Culford & Tottenham roads near where the new school is being built. Local people can't park their cars near their houses. Surely the road is not supposed to be used as private parking and garaging for a private taxi firm?
Mrs M.B., Culford Road, N1



Editor: We're going to take up complaints & ideas we get in letters; and De Beaver will always follow them & its news stories through. The De Beauvoir Association has therefore taken a daily count of taxis and lodged formal complaints with the Police & Carriages Office. The nuisance has existed for about 6 months & many complaints have been made to the Council & Police without success. It seems the Council gave planning permission without full consideration of parking & garaging facilities. Now, following DBA pressure, it has served an Enforcement Order, but " . . . an appeal may take at least 12 months." But it is a condition of getting a Carriages Licence that off-street parking exists. This firm clearly exists solely by garaging & servicing on Culford Rd & Mews and on Tottenham Rd - often on the footpath at risk to pedestrians & schoolchildren. Thus the DBA complaint to Police & Carriages Office. We will keep you advised.

DUST TO DUSK

Having been given the Beaver to read I was very pleased to see that someone is trying to do something about Picons because the noise & dust that we in front of Hertford Road have to endure is just unbearable. It continues from early morning until dusk. To put an old folks block of flats in front of all those factories doesn't bear thinking about. Thank you for trying.
Mrs L ALLEN, 30 St Martins Court, N1

SUPER VISION

I was pleased to note during the summer holiday break that the Odeon cinema has started to seat unaccompanied children down the front of the cinema on their own. This will put an end to any chance of them being molested which is the main worry of working mums unable to escort their

children, yet not wanting them to miss the films which are usually specially selected for children during the holidays. This is an idea I would like to see spread to all cinemas with perhaps even a total ban on adults in the front - or, so as not to cause hardship to those with bad sight who must sit near the front, to have a section reserved solely for unaccompanied children.
Mrs LILY PARROTT, Culford Road, N1

SPECIAL THANKS

May I on behalf of the De Beauvoir Labour Party offer our sincere thanks to your Secretary Mrs. Kibblewhite & the De Beauvoir Assoc'n for the wonderful work you are doing running the playgroup on Kingsgate Estate and the old people's outing on which many went from St. Martin's Court. I wish to add my special thanks to Mrs Kibblewhite for the way she responded to my request to supply bed clothes for an old age pensioner who had the misfortune to lose her things through being flooded out.
JIM WARNER (Councillor), Rozel Court, N1

CLEAN UP

Tenants of Granville Ct would like to know when we are going to have a clean-up. The entrance lifts and back stairways windows are disgustingly dirty. The back stairs and windows have never been cleaned since the block opened over 2 years ago. This cannot be blamed on vandals. It is surely the Borough's responsibility to have the building looking respectable. It seems that slums from the past had a better reputation for being maintained than these costly new blocks. Lets have a cleaner appearance for goodness sake.
GRANVILLE TENANTS

OLD LEASE

In the article about Mr William Benyon it is stated that De Beauvoir Town was begun in the 1930s. Should it not be the 1830s? The area which is now the New Town Estate was De Beauvoir Crescent to Downham Rd and when the houses there were pulled down it was said that they were 120 years old at least. I have in my possession an old lease my father Mr A J Clark received when he bought the lease of this house in 1889. The first date on that lease is 1851 and has the name James Herbert Benyon on it.
MISS H CLARK 44 Englefield Rd

Editor: Miss Clark is quite right. This was a typing mistake. We'd like to hear from other people about their old leases and memories of the area. We hope to publish a history of De Beauvoir soon.

HIDE PARK?

The De Beauvoir Square gardens are beautifully kept and would even be more pleasant if there were shrubs planted along the inside railings, which would partly hide the street and make it a real garden enclosure.
MRS H WALD 114 Culford Rd

OBITUARY

It is always sad to say a last goodbye to a neighbour. Many of us heard with sincere regret of the sad death of Ronnie Parker. He became so well known and very well liked by his customers when he started his paraffin round which he had previously to driving his taxi. Ronnie was always distinguished by his pleasant manner and happy disposition. His is a truly sad loss to the local community.
LILY PARROTT

Mrs. Furby, of 104 Downham Road, who was a long-established resident of De Beauvoir, recently passed away. Mrs. Furby will be sadly missed by all who knew her. She was well-liked and always made you welcome and was a great supporter of things she believed in.
RON ADAMSON

D.B.A.'s BUSY RECORD

The De Beauvoir Association holds its 4th annual meeting at 8pm on Wednesday, October 27, in the crypt of St Peters Church. Doris Kibblewhite, secretary, records a busy year in the annual report, mentioning in particular the launching of De Beaver (you are reading the third issue) & opening of the first pre-school playgroup - a project made possible by a Council grant,

She says Association members have worked hard with Council officers & councillors on the official GIA Committee, & its housing and environment subcommittees, to frame policies to improve houses & the area. The Leaseholders Association, De Beauvoir Trust & Southern Area Action Group (SAAG) -- all formed on the Association's initiative -- have had equally busy years, she records.

But there are still real difficulties: 1) the need to make the Council treat the area as a whole; 2) pressure of winking on tenants & house prices; 3) lack of control of industrial nuisances like

smallads

Small Ads are FREE to local people in the December De Beaver & 2p a word for commercial advertisers. We come out on December 2 & 3. Please send all ads by Monday, November 8, to Frank Fletcher, 74 De Beauvoir Rd, or Jo Parsey, 45 Buckingham Rd. Display ads are £1 a column inch (lin x 3 1/2 ins).

IS ANYONE interested in forming a local spiritualist circle. Box 1, 9 Buckingham Road, N1.

YOUNG PEOPLE join Task Force. Contact Ruth at Task Force, 210 Kingsland Road, E2, or phone 739 2270.

LEYLAND PAINTS Ltd, 75 Newman St, W1, offer 33% discount to holders of De Beauvoir Assocn card.

BABY'S COT & mattress for sale, £1.50. Swallow High Pram, good condn, £3. Phone 254 5155.

FOUR BLACK-and-white kittens need good home. 45 Buckingham Road, N1.

FREE ADVICE on house improvements. Mr Richards, Improvement Officer, 146 De Beauvoir Road, N1.

TOY FORT or castle, toy soldiers, tanks, cars, etc wanted. Good prices paid. Weir, 137 Balls Pond Rd.

ADVICE CENTRE open every Saturday from 10am to 12 noon in crypt of St Peters Church, Northchurch Rd. Leasehold, housing, rent, repairs, social queries, and any worries dealt with.

PART-TIME female receptionist required -- 20 hours, 5 evenings, Sat/Sun off on rota. Apply Manager, Odeon Cinema, Dalston.

DE
Beaver 137 BALLS POND ROAD N1

De Beaver is a free community paper for the people of De Beauvoir - old & new towns. We are sponsored by the De Beauvoir Association & New Town Tenants Association, but we are here to serve everyone, & not just association members. We will be delighted to print your letters, news, questions, pictures, articles. Please send your contributions to us by Saturday, November 13.
Our thanks to all who contributed to this issue.

LEASES: FIGHT ON

Local leaseholders may go to the Lands Tribunal to fight to reduce the prices which Brown & Brown are asking for freeholds. The Tribunal can reduce prices it feels are too high (or raise low ones).

Body Son & Fluery, the West End chartered surveyors who are negotiating for lower prices for some dozen leaseholders, have met a representative of Brown & Brown, who are managing agents for the Benyon estate (the ground landlord). B & B are unwilling to reduce the prices which they say are reasonable. The surveyors think they are in excess of the prices which should be paid under the Leasehold Reform Act. The surveyors are coming to a public meeting, provisionally fixed for 7pm on Wednesday, October 13, in the crypt of St Peters Church to explain the position fully. If leaseholders want to be assured that the prices they pay are right they must go to the Tribunal. The Leaseholders Association has set up a Fighting Fund to cover the basic costs; individual leaseholders will be asked to pay what they can afford.

Leaseholders worried about going for freeholds, or who have been asked what seems a high price, should come along. It should also be pointed out that you can challenge ground rents for new leases if they seem too high. For further details contact Harry Prior, 48 Northchurch Road, N1.

REPS WANTED

Residents of the southern & northern areas of De Beauvoir and New Town tenants are to be represented on the central area GIA Residents Steering Committee. Public meetings are being held in the crypt of St Peters Church, Northchurch Rd, for the election of 2 representatives per area:

- New Town tenants choose their reps first at 8pm on Wednesday, October 6, in the crypt
- Southern & northern area residents vote in their reps separately at a joint meeting at 8pm on Wednesday, October 20.

The 2 meetings are officially recognised by Hackney Council, but are being run by local associations. The GIA Committee, which was officially set up by the Council to give local people a say in the central area GIA work, is now preparing plans for road closures, play areas, parking, etc. These plans are being drawn up with Council officers & will affect people throughout all De Beauvoir. They will affect you. The Committee voted to take on extra reps to give people outside the central area a share in preparing the plans. STUART WEIR

Lady makes Trusty deal

Some leaseholders haven't been going for freeholds, or even extended leases, because they can't afford the freehold prices or new ground rents. A few give up their leases & become tenants of Brown & Brown. Some elderly leaseholders worry because they can't afford the upkeep of their homes.

One leaseholder has found a way out of these difficulties. She has done a deal with the De Beauvoir Trust:

- The Trust lent her the money to buy her freehold, pay legal costs, etc
- She then sells the freehold house to the Trust at a higher price than she paid for it. The Trust then houses her in a converted house locally or, if she prefers, in a Council flat (by reciprocal arrangement with the Council).

So she makes a small profit & gets a decent home, without the worry of upkeep. The Trust will do a similar deal with other leaseholders. It's worth considering even if you are going for a 50-year extended lease. Trust rents compare well with the new high ground rents; & Trust rents can be reduced by rent rebates. OAPs' rents are usually paid by the social security. Contact Mr Young, 135 Balls Pond Road, for more information.

Trust spreads net

The De Beauvoir Trust, which aims to provide modernised homes at cheapest possible rents for local people, is now well on the way to converting 20 houses. A new conversion at 113 Tottenham Rd is now receiving the finishing touches - and tenants from De Beauvoir will be moving into both the flats provided.

Other houses bought recently have included several with tenants living in poor & overcrowded condition. Hackney Council is helping by finding suitable Council homes for those whom the Trust can't rehouse quickly itself. In return, the Trust will accept tenants from the Council housing list when more conversions are complete.

The Trust has also recently bought 2 more houses on the open market with fully vacant possession - which shows the prices the Trust can pay for property in the area are still competitive and reasonable. The Trust also has an advantage in that it can consider the personal circumstances of selling owners, leaseholders & tenants. Trust workmen are now hard at work in 52 Mortimer Rd, and work will start soon on six more houses in the area. The Trust is always interested to hear of properties in the area: apply to Robin Young, 135 Balls Pond Road N1 (phone office hours 236 8862). ROBIN YOUNG

Maria Clarke

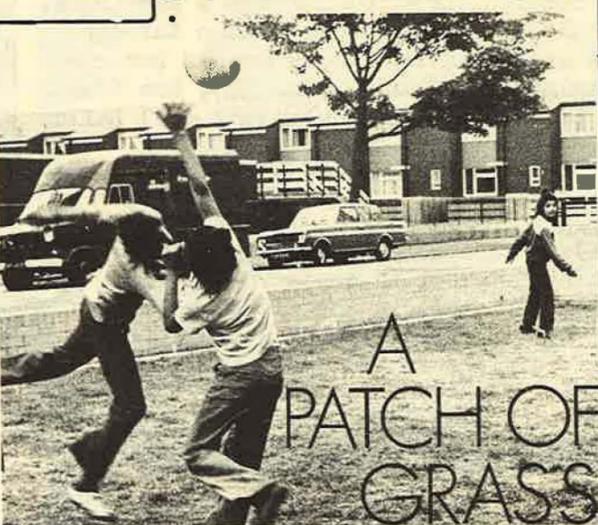
personal view

In the past few years the population of the De Beauvoir area has greatly increased yet nothing has been done to provide adequate facilities for these people. This has led to constant complaints by the older people concerning the bad behaviour of the children & teenagers. Yet surely this behaviour arises from the lack of interesting & beneficial activities in the area.

Play facilities in the New Town itself may as well be non-existent. Of what utter use is a handful of swings, a couple of patches of grass for hundreds of children - especially when they are hounded away from these spaces because of their proximity to the flats, maisonettes & houses. Mothers of young families living in the high blocks dare not let their youngsters out to play unless they are with them because of the lack of a supervised play area.

However it is not only the children of the area who suffer, but also the teenagers. In the whole area, there is not one youth club. Surely a youth club or at least a community hall should come into the category of necessities for such a large area.

It is a firm belief of many people that a great deal of present-day vandalism is due to sheer boredom and that local authorities should be urged to play a more constructive role before the situation becomes much worse. There are at least 2 ways of



doing something in the De Beauvoir area. Firstly, more open space is needed, situated where kids can play football without the worry that there might be another broken window to pay for. Secondly, a community hall would be of great value to old and young alike.

Local work for OAPs

A workshop for the elderly will shortly open its doors on the New Town estate to the 16 applicants from De Beauvoir. Its eventual capacity is 60-80. Hackney's workshops for the elderly are famous through the world and have had visitors from China, France, Australia, Israel & many other countries. The idea is to keep OAPs out of hospital by giving them work and some purpose in life. The workshops usually also become social centres. The elderly work 2 hours a day and are paid 75p a week. The jobs usually consist of light industrial work like collating & packaging. This particular workshop, Hackney's fourth, will bring the number of elderly catered for in the borough to over 300. Mr A F Fussell, the organizer, would welcome offers of work from firms in the area willing to help. He would be delighted to discuss suggestions & can be reached at Workshops for the Elderly, Ellingfort Rd, Mare St, E8 (Tel: 985 1011). WILLIAM VERITY

A Sugawn Kitchen?

What is it? Where is it? What is a sugawn? Well, a sugawn (say it, soo-gawn') is a rope made from twisted rushes or dried grass. Very old, very Irish. The ropes had a variety of uses, not the least being to provide soft pliable seats for the hand-made chairs of long ago. Our Sugawn kitchen has sugawn chairs. Hence the name.

In answer to the what? and where? questions, here's a quote from a recent Irish Post article: "... You know the place in Balls Pond Road where the chairs are made from bog rushes from Co Clare? It's called the Sugawn Folk Kitchen in the Duke of Wellington... practically everyone from the world of traditional music in London was there..." So, the Sugawn Kitchen at the Wellington is a folk centre of some importance in the Dalston area. Watch for the opening of a new season, hopefully in October. On Friday nights, Tony Bradley presents International Folk; Saturdays & Sundays, I introduce Irish traditional music in these colourful surroundings. JERRY O'NEILL

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PINNING THE WINKLERS

problem

Winkling in De Beauvoir has not yet reached the alarming proportions it has in parts of Islington. But it is with us & increasing. Tenants are being worried & harassed with offers of inadequate sums of money & unsuitable alternative accommodation after their homes have been bought by speculators.

Even for tenants who know their rights the pressures give rise to anxiety & often to ill-health. Many of them are old & inclined to worry and feel isolated.

The speculators are ready to buy properties in a bad state & fully or partly occupied, just as long as a handsome profit is made on the re-sale. Last year in Culford Grove a house sold for £3000 more than was paid for it 6 months before. The speculators are persistent. Recently a tenant with arthritis was offered £600 & then a flat. But due to his condition he must live near a bus stop and told the 'winkler' this flat was too far from the nearest stop. He was immediately offered an invalid motor car as well!

This exploitation of the housing shortage not only adds to the problems of tenants, most of whom are living in bad conditions. It is also pushing up house prices beyond what local families can afford.

DORIS KIBBLEWHITE

At the latest London Auction Mart sale (Thursday September 16) 25/25a Buckingham Road, a fully tenanted house with a ramshackle workshop at rear, was not offered for sale. It was sold prior to auction reputedly for £4000 - a ridiculously inflated price which is almost double what a speculator paid for a similar house a few doors away last year. The new owner is a property dealer. We hope the price reflects his ambitions for the workshop. A leasehold house in Culford Road with 18 years to go on the lease, and also fully occupied, went for £1050. M.D.L.

NEW TOWN LAUNDERETTE

It took ages to build & open. When it did open it was a complete failure. Now it's almost derelict. But the launderette on the New Town estate could be a useful service; people without gardens found it invaluable for the short time it was open (even though there was never a time when all machines were in order at the same

action

The De Beauvoir Association & local reps on the official Council GIA Steering Committee are putting pressure on the Council to deal with winkling & bad landlordism in general. Coun Ken Wilson, chairman of housing management, ordered prompt action in the case of the arthritic tenant in Buckingham Road (see left). Council officers inspected the house and are putting a closing order on it. The intention was to require the landlord to put in modern amenities & make proper repairs. But the public health department thought the house was structurally too poor.

Reps on the GIA Committee are pressing for orders for repairs and modern amenities in a house in De Beauvoir Square. The landlord has offered tenants meagre sums (£250 in one case) to go. Here the Council has not acted quickly - although the Council has already accepted a recommendation in the residents' report on the GIA that it should use the up-to-date powers of the 1969 Housing Act to insist on repairs which would bring tenanted houses in bad condition up to the state of repair of decent homes in the area. These powers aren't being used. The report also said that the Council should crack down hard & fast on speculating landlords. The house in the square was first reported to the Council in April - four months ago!

Officers & local reps will be considering what can be done to tighten policies up at the official GIA housing subcommittee this month. (It should also be said that it's speculating or bad landlords who get publicity; conscientious ones don't.) Tenants worried about winkling pressures or repairs, or who want modern amenities, should contact the Association through the weekly advice centre or Mrs Doris Kibblewhite (9 Buckingham Rd), Mrs Young (8 De Beauvoir Sq) or Mr Weir (137 Balls Pond Rd). STUART WEIR

time) as it isn't always easy to dry washing on small balconies & using the drying cupboards in the flats would mean huge electricity bills. Now a petition is circulating for its re-opening with improved services. I wish the petition's organisers good luck. MARIA CLARKE

PRIZE FIRST CORRECT ANSWER TO 137 BALLS POND ROAD NI WHERE IS THIS IN DE BEAUVOIR? ANSWER LAST PUZZLE, ST PETER'S CHURCH GATE



KIDS KORNA & MUMS

Our Guinea pig Goldie died leaving 3 tiny 5 day old babies behind. We are feeding them with an eye-dropper with a pen filler on the end, using baby milk powder. They are getting greedy & getting fat. Our cat was only 3 weeks old when she was left in a box by someone unkind to cats. Our mum fed her with an eye-dropper & she is now a big cat. We hope the baby pigs get big and strong on baby food as well.

LEONARD, MARTIN AND DAVID

THREE LITTLE GUINEA PIGS

The Mothers Emergency Service is now the Mothers & Children's Club. The club - in which mothers take turns to mind each others' children - is open from 10.15am to 12 noon Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays at the crypt of St Peters Church. All local mothers welcome. Mrs Frances Goldhill, Hackney's playgroup organiser, has visited and advised us. Thanks to her; to everyone who helped with the Dutch Sale & Bazaar in aid of the club & leaseholders; to Mrs Parsey & Miles for running round getting posters put up; & to Mr Dobinson for his eye-catching poster.

MRS LEGG, MRS PALMER & THE COMMITTEE
MOTHERS & CHILDREN'S CLUB

A jumble sale at the Kingsgate Playgroup last month raised £22 for a Christmas party & play materials. £10 has been put aside for a puppet show. A pram & cot are still for sale (see advert). The Playgroup waiting list is open for children under 5 in De Beauvoir Town & New Town; apply to Mrs Sheila Thatcher, Kingsgate Hall, Buckingham Road, any morning. PRINTS OF PHOTOS AVAILABLE

KINGSGATE PLAYGROUP

Centerprise, the lively book & coffee shop at 34 Dalston Lane, is trying to launch a Puffin Club for Hackney children. Authors come & read their stories & other nice things happen. Put your children's names down. There's an informal play-group now on alternate Saturdays from 3 to 5pm; the free legal & welfare Advice Centre is open every Thursday from 6.30-7.30pm; & on Wednesday, October 13, the Notting Hill Theatre Workshop will be performing.

PUFFIN & CENTERPRISE

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