

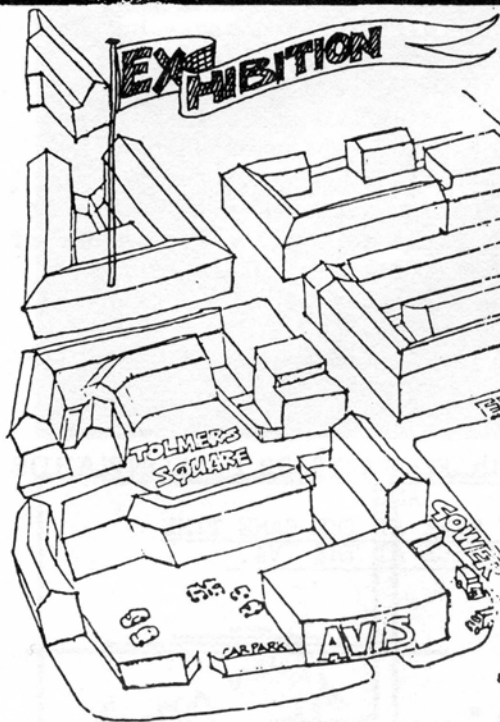
TOLMERS NEWS N°6

PUBLISHED BY THE TOLMERS VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

EDITED THIS WEEK BY SUZI NELSON AND NICK WATES Typing and graphics by Moyra and Marlene Aung

The TOLMERS NEWS will hopefully be published every two weeks. It has two aims: First; to keep local people informed about the latest developments of plans affecting our area, and second; to provide people who live or work in the area with a means to express their views about what is happening. If you would like to write a letter or article for the next issue please bring it or send it to; The Editors, TOLMERS NEWS, 102 Drummond Street, N. W. 1. 387 4004.

15 FEB 1974



Open 18-23 Feb
EXHIBITION
102 Drummond street
DAILY 11.00am - 8.00pm.
WHAT DO WE WANT TO DO WITH OUR AREA

DO WE WANT OFFICES?

DO WE WANT

RENOVATION OR REDEVELOPMENTS?

MORE OR LESS CARS?

PLAYGROUNDS AND GARDENS?

DO WE WANT.....

. A COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER?

We have seen what Levy wants to do with Tolmers Square.....

We have also seen what the Council wants to do with the area.....

Now it is time for all of us who live or work here to put forward some of our own ideas.

The T.V.A. exhibition will not present a complete scheme. Instead it will explain what the area is really like - who lives and works here - why - for how long - what sort of community exists - what people need and want. It will show how the buildings are falling down and/or empty, how the area has been allowed to decay for more than 10 years, and why. It will then put forward some proposals for action, e.g.

a locally managed housing association, renovation, new facilities and housing, street closures and so on.

The next stage will be the preparation of the community's proposals for redevelopment, so it is vitally important that everyone comes to the exhibition and puts forward their own ideas.

Both the Council and Levy are trying to work out what to do. They have been held up by the government's ban on Office Development Councils, and the general economic situation. We therefore have a great opportunity to put forward our own scheme based on trying to make the area a better place to live and work in, rather than maximising profits for land-owners.

Special events will be organised during the week such as special meeting for business interest and resident groups. Information about this will be posted later on.

REFRESHMENTS

TVA LEGAL ADVICE SERVICE STARTING

FREE LEGAL ADVICE FOR TOLMERS VILLAGE RESIDENTS

... Did you know that you are entitled to ask your local authority to compel your landlord to provide hot and cold running water, washing facilities and an efficient toilet?

... Did you know that in some circumstances a wife is obliged by law to maintain her husband?

You will now have the opportunity and the means to find out for yourselves AT NO EXPENSE.

Starting on Wednesday 20th February, the TVA will provide a new service for the local residents. From 6.30 pmonwards on that and every Wednesday following, a small team of young lawyers will be on call at the TVA Community Shop at 102 Drummond Street to help answer YOUR problems.

Do you find lawyers hard to locate? Do you worry that your problem may be too trivial to interest a lawyer? Do all the formalities make you nervous? Above all, are you worried about the expense? Even though you may be eligible to receive legal aid and

so free legal advice, you may be unable to discover details of the legal aid scheme or a lawyer who is prepared to do legal aid work.

We, on the other hand, can easily be found at 102 Drummond Street, where we shall be providing both information and advice about your problems. If we are unable to answer your query on the spot, we may ask you to leave it with us until the following Wednesday but we will always offer either a solution or someone else who can solve it for you. If there is a legal remedy, we shall find it and assist you in any subsequent proceedings. If there is no legal remedy, we will put you in touch with the appropriate agency to deal with it. The atmosphere we hope to create is one of informal friendly efficiency where everyone and every problem, whether with your landlord, the council, the police, the D.H.S.S. or even within your own family, is welcome to come for legal assistance - FREE.

So remember:

WEDNESDAY 20th FEBRUARY 6.30 P. MONWARDS
AND
EVERY WEEK AT THE SAME TIME
FREE LEGAL ADVICE AT THE TVA.

The decline of Coburg St

"It was a lovely street, you'd never hear a blessed car. There were a lot of kids here then who could play in the street".

This was only a few years ago before they rebuilt Euston station. When the new gleaming Euston was erected not only was the Euston Hotel and Arch replaced by National Car Parks but Cobourg Street became a turn round route for taxis approaching the station. The end of a pleasant residential street.

And what makes it worse is that for the past 3 years a manhole in the middle of the road has been loose. Day and night it makes a loud bang, every time a vehicle drives over it. Repeated phone calls to the Council by Maureen Holland, Pam Daly, Ted Kelly and Bill Woodall of 67, 61, 59, and 65 Cobourg Street have so far failed to get action, despite promise of "We'll be around in the morning".

How long will we have to wait?

Nick Wates, in conversation with
Maureen Holland.

no action on collapsed house

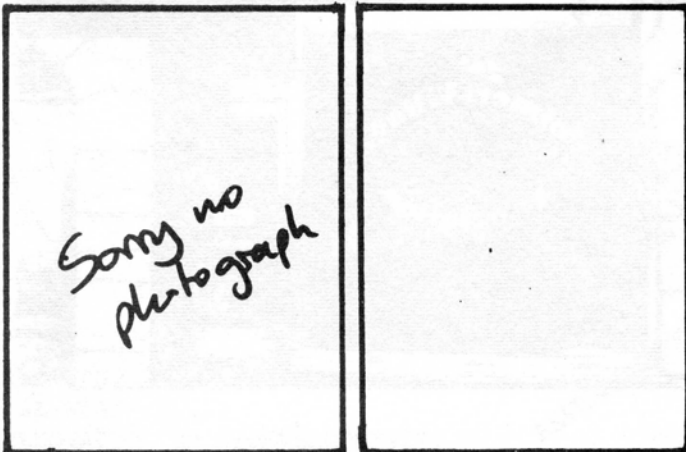
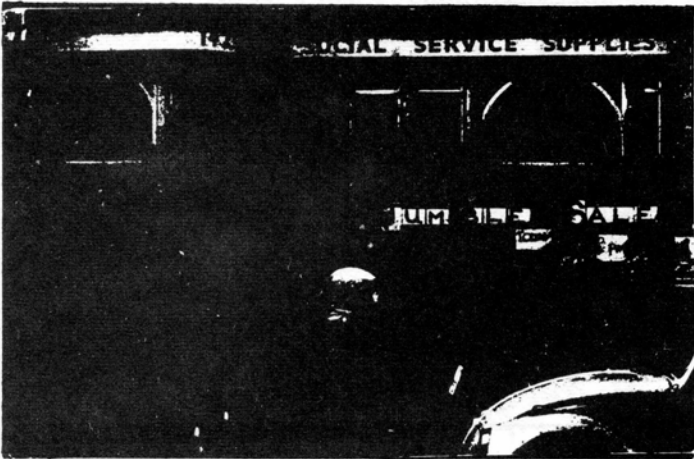
When nos. 56 and 58 Hampstead Road collapsed last October, the T.V.A. demanded an enquiry (TN 2). Nothing has been heard since, so I rang up the District Surveyor, Mr Jenkins, to find out why. Apparently he has not written a report on the subject and does not even consider one necessary. "It just got tired of Standing" was the flippant way he dismissed the whole affair. "The brick piers were not built strongly enough in the 19th century and they just gave up the ghost".

Clearly the real reason was deliberate neglect by Stock Conversion, the owners. Its about time Mr. Jenkins starts doing his job properly.



JUMBLE SALE

Thirty five pounds was raised for the TVA.
Congratulations to all those who helped
especially Atalia and Maureen Holland.



MORE LETTERS PLEASE.....

The Editor,

I'd like to thank the organisers of the jumble sale held in aid of the T.V.A. For me it was far more than a sale, it was a social event.

Since the Market was swallowed up by a corner of Euston Towers, I have found that I hardly ever bump into my neighbours other than those in my own block. I really enjoyed chatting to old friends again and making new ones, and I got some really nice jumble as well!

Thanks again, when is the next Tolmers event? I'm getting the taste for belonging to a community once again.

Maggie, 183 Nth. Gower St.

Andrew Adamides died on 16th January, his birthday, at the age of 72. He had lived at 8 Tolmers Square for over 20 years.

We offer our sympathies to his friends.

From Hampstead Road to Euston,
Around old Tomers Square,
There once was quite a gathering
I with that I'd been there!

The neighbours warm and friendly,
The shops were bright and gay,
Until plans were developed
To change their lives one day.

Then there came the buildings,
Reaching for the sky,
Whilst houses that fell empty
Caused us all to sigh.

Livelihoods were threatened,
We lost the Cumberland Mart,
Trucks stood bright and smelly
Where homes had played their part.

Now we've got together,
To put our points of view,
The T.V.A. will help us all,
And that's each one of you!

Margarite Westo, 1974.

Squatting

One or two people may still be worried by the increase in squatting in the area. It should be remembered that squatting is not illegal and seems to be the only way of getting empty properties used, which is extremely important if the area is not to decay even further.

Squatters are only interested in the same things as other residents - a home in a nice area. They may not pay rent but they don't have any security and won't get on the council lists. Houses are empty and people have nowhere to live - squatting is the only way. However they are still a part of the community and if anyone is worried about them, don't hesitate to talk to the squatters, or come to the T.V.A. People should remember that the T.V.A. is not primarily concerned with squatting but squatters may become members just like anyone else who lives and works in the area.

ADS

Advertisements Cost: 10p per line
displays 50p per column inch
If interested please contact the
editors at 102 Drummond St.

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Indian & Pakistani sweets
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News Bits

DID YOU KNOW

According to a map of 1832:
North Gower Street was called George Street,
Euston Street was called Crescent Street
and

Tolmers Square did not even exist!

Some people aren't waiting for landlords to
redecorate their houses. Barry, Patrick, Colin
and Toni at 119 Drummond Street have painted the
outside of their house making the street look
much brighter. And you should see the inside.

Bojour Monsieur Shah, comment allez-vous?
J'espere que vous ne quitterez pas vos
amis de Tolmers Village.

Mr. Patel has left us for three weeks for
a tour to India.

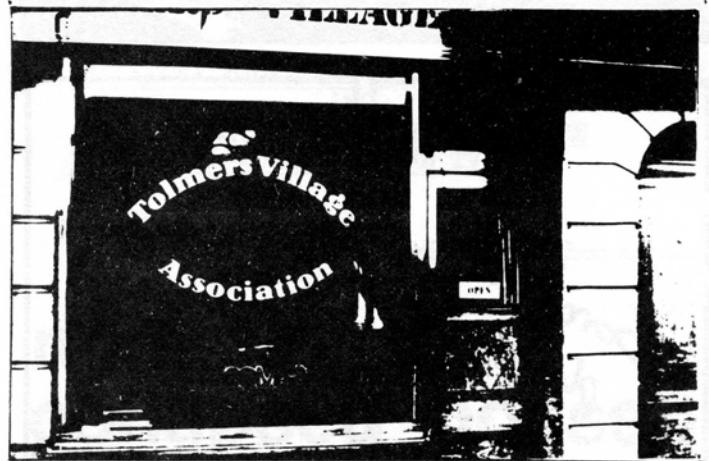
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Vines

-- for your sandwiches, rolls, groceries
and almost everything else you need. Fresh
bread and milk daily. The mint sauce is now
in stock and handsome Harry is waiting to
serve you.

R. & E. SIMMONDS LTD. House furnishers 180/182,
North Gower Street (tel. 01 387 4746).



PAINTED WINDOW

Everyone must have noticed the beautiful painting
on the window of the T.V.A. Kate Hepburn - of
Monty Python graphics fame - has spent many unpaid
hours on it. The geranium is a symbol of city
fertility. If anyone else fancies a colourful
window she would welcome work. Anyone interested
come to the T.V.A.

ACROSS

1. List without ends
3. Has teeth but no mouth
5. Chas? has the money
7. Girl's name
9. Contented chant
11. University of the ether
13. Antique



DOWN

1. Freezing container (3,3)
2. Descended into chair
3. He's changed
4. Compass points yield first plural
6. Neither slipper nor boot
8. And behold!
10. Rockers' counterpart
12. Negative, turned on