



## The Midsummer Fayre

A committee has already done some of the preliminary work, and William Webb has agreed to act as organising secretary.

He is READY and WAITING to hear from residents of Brockley who are interested in:-

- \* running a stall of their own for the Society
- \* helping on a stall
- \* providing homemade cakes and/or sweets
- \* providing bottles and tins of food etc. for prizes
- \* collecting or donating bric-a-brac and books
- \* having a stall to raise funds for a charity in which they are interested

And we need young people to help on the day. Please ring William Webb 692 6363 or John House 692 6506 or Juliet Johnson 692 1553

If you are making toys etc. these can be delivered to 25 Rokeby Rd. or 104 Tressillian Rd.

### Horse Jumping

We are hoping to arrange a Novice Show Jumping and Gymkhana at the Fayre. We have donations from local firms for prizes.

Send S.A.E. for details to:-

R. Cornwell, 35 Breakspears Rd., Brockley, S.E.4.

We shall need HELPERS for this event. If you are interested get in touch with Mr. R. Cornwell.

### PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- 74 Upper Brockley Road - Use of ground floor flat for residential purposes.
- 70 Manor Avenue - extension at side at second floor level.

If you are a local artist, sculptor, photographer, potter, embroiderer etc. and would like to take part in a show - get in touch with Don Harris 692 2892 to discuss organising such an event.



DEAR SIR .....

Letters on these subjects have been sent by the Secretary.

- 86 Wickham Road - objecting to use as a Housing Office and proposing other premises.
- Trees in the front garden of 103 Upper Brockley Road - objecting to proposed felling.
- Street puddles - at corner of Harefield and Breakspears Road, and in Lewisham Way between the Library and Malpas Road - a letter to the Borough Engineer.
- Letter to the Police and Engineers about unlicensed cars in Harefield Road.
- A second letter on the fire hazard at the Artisan Shop in Tyrwhitt Road, to the Public Health Department.
- 35 St. Margarets Road - empty house - to the Borough Valuer urging maintenance.
- Empty houses - A letter listing some which may enable the Borough Valuer to follow these up, with a view to their being occupied.

### ST. PETER'S CENTRE

The March Gallop raised over £200 for the funds. Progress with the rewiring is slow - materials held up, strikes etc. etc. However, we hope, once the rewiring is done, to start work on the interior decorations.

Snooker & billiards from April 11th, Wednesday 2 - 4.30p.m.

Bingo - starting May 3rd, Thursday 7.30p.m. 10p entrance.

Elderly people's club - Wednesday 2 - 4p.m. All welcome.

We are hoping to start a Youth Club. The I.L.E.A. is willing to help PROVIDING we can get some local volunteers to help. We want this to be a multi racial club and we especially ask local parents who want to help provide facilities for their children to enjoy themselves near home, to get in touch with Ron Kilsby 692 5077 and tell him you are interested.

The Brockley Project is now working at 126 Upper Brockley Road with two full-time community workers and a part-time clerical officer/typist, we will shortly have another full time worker.

We are working in the Brockley area with local neighbourhood groups and on local community issues, and can provide information and advice on a range of subjects affecting the community.

Several groups including a "mums and toddlers" and a children's music group use the Project as a base. We are hoping to start other groups to meet the needs of people in the area.

So, if you feel we can be of help or if you wish to contact us please drop in or call us on 691 4609 or 691 5861. We will be pleased to see you.

## WASTE PAPER

THE NEXT COLLECTION IS ON MAY 5th & we are collecting on JUNE 2nd & JULY 7th ----- NOT IN AUGUST NEWSPAPERS ONLY As we received only £12 in Apr and £16.96 in Feb, we shall reconsider whether to collect in September, or wait until the paper prices rise again ----- IN THIS CASE we shall need another source of income. ----ANY IDEAS ????

### HILLY FIELDS TRAFFIC STUDY

At a meeting held recently at Deptford Town Hall, representatives of local Resident and Tenants' Associations were invited to discuss traffic and road safety with representatives of Lewisham Engineer's Dept., fire and ambulance service and local councillors.

The area involved in the study is that bounded by Lewisham Way/Loampit Hill; Brockley Grove/Brockley Road/Wickham Rd and Elmira St./Marsala Rd. and Ladywell Rd.

Particular problems mentioned which may affect Brockley Conservation Area, were

1. Student car parking at the Lewisham Way ends of Tressillian Rd. and Breakspears Rd.
2. Speed of commuter traffic flow along Montague Ave. and Tressillian Rd.
3. Speeding along Brockley Grove and the risk to schoolchildren, particularly.
4. The heavy commuter and lorry traffic cutting through Algernon Rd. and Cliffview Rd. to avoid congested major roads.
5. The dangerous junctions at both ends of Tyrwhitt Rd. and at Tressillian Rd. where it joins Tressillian Cres

Public meetings will be held before any traffic control scheme is implemented and the scheme will be experimental at first, as was the Manor Ave. Traffic Scheme recently completed.

### ANTIQUES WANTED

I wish to purchase any of the following pre-1930 items:---

- Wardrobes, Sideboards, Bookcases
- Display Cabinets, Dining Tables,
- China, Brass, Tiles, Bric-a-Brac
- ANYTHING OLD & INTERESTING

Phone Ian Middleton 01-692 2845 or write to 91 Tyrwhitt Road, London SE4

advert

THE OLD FIRM  
55 LOAMPIT HILL SE 13

The Oldest Antique Business in this area requires OLD FURNITURE, PAINTINGS anything INTERESTING....

TOP PRICES PAID  
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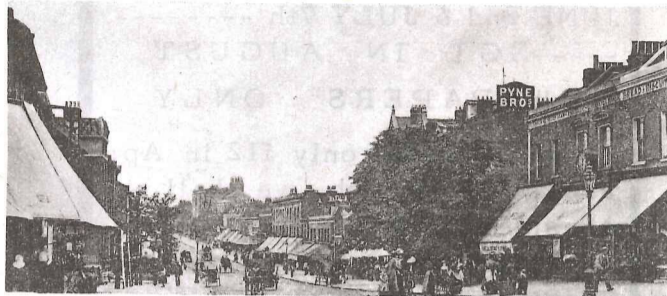
# CAN WE HALT THE BLIGHT OF LEWISHAM WAY??

Lewisham Way has declined both visually and as a shopping area. Much of the decline is superficial, some is more permanent.

The Brockley Society is looking into the reasons for this decline, how to halt it and possible improvements.

Lewisham Way runs past both good and bad; pleasant spots with mature trees, buildings of character like Barclays Bank, buildings from the early 19th and 18th centuries, like the shops between Oscar Street and Friendly Street, and bad spots with badly maintained or empty shops and vacant land.

The environment, both for local people and long distance traffic, could be more pleasant if improvements were made to the ugly patches - that's all they are, though the general effect sometimes seems worse! As in so many other roads radiating from London.



## HISTORY

Do you remember the road 20, 40 or 60 years ago? Its character has changed a lot since 1916.

A marked change seems to have taken place after a fire at Pynes (now Alexander Sloane), on the now empty site lined with advertisement hoardings. The new use and buildings on this land seem a key to some of the most imaginative opportunities for improvement, particularly because of its position in a slight valley, seen from quite a way off. (A carpet warehouse was at one time proposed for the land).

## SHOPPING

The main changes have taken place in the shops. As a shopping area the road is declining. The number and variety of shops has declined, and continues to do so as the turnover and efficiency of the shops decrease. The decline has been caused by many factors including:-

- the nearness of larger, growing centres like Lewisham and Deptford
- the increase in use of cars for bulk buying, particularly food and provisions
- the decrease in population in the area
- the effect of increased traffic, both on the appearance of the road and as a physical barrier to shoppers
- the uncertainty caused, in part, by the possibility of a road widening scheme

About 10% of the shops are empty. Shops destroyed by fire have not been replaced, and some have been converted for other uses such as offices, stores, second hand furniture and antique shops. The shopping area is also declining visually as decreasing profitability leaves less spare cash for maintenance and repair.

## COUNCIL POLICY

What is the Council's policy?

They are in favour of a range of shops - Grocer, Greengrocer, Chemist, Butcher, Sub-Post Office etc. within walking distance of residential areas, to satisfy local needs without weakening the main centres. The Council does however say that market forces should be allowed to prevail, possibly leading to some further decline. Their Shopping Policy Document is being discussed by Committees at the moment, and suggestions are that no new shops be built in the area, and change of use to offices etc. should be allowed.

## The Future

The next step should be for groups and individuals who live and work near the main road to get together - maybe leaflets and questionnaires might be the answer. Then short and long term policies can be suggested to the Council.

## OUR VIEWS

What does happen to the shops changing use?

This policy could lead to a series of scattered shops and other businesses spread over some distance. The long term effects of any policy need careful discussion. We would hope that as a local group of shops the area could better serve the needs of local people.

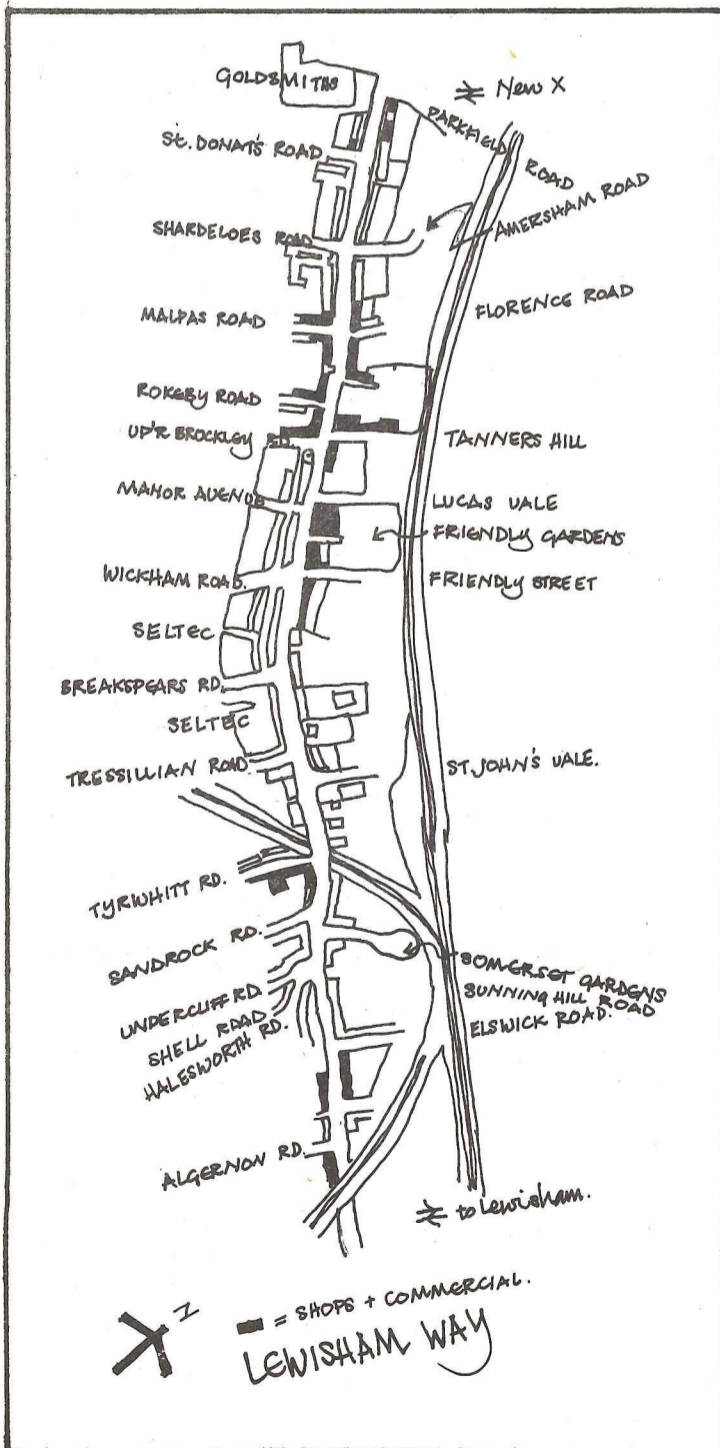
## TRAFFIC

Solving any major traffic problems seems to be outside our local scope. Lewisham Way is a Metropolitan road and is therefore the responsibility of the GLC, although the Borough can act as agent for maintenance and improvement.

There are apparently no plans for major improvements for the next few years at least. The GLC has reviewed the effects of Lewisham's traffic cell schemes on traffic flow in Lewisham Way. The existing cell schemes have been approved by the GLC for the moment at least. A new traffic cell scheme is being developed by Lewisham Engineer's Department, for the area surrounding Hillyfields, and reduction of traffic in residential roads will inevitably effect Lewisham Way. The research group will be investigating the several dangerous junctions along this main road, and trying to devise improvements for them. It will also investigate car parking problems in and around Lewisham Way.

## PAVING & FORECOURTS

One suggestion already received from St. John's Conservation Area and others, is to have parking space incorporated in improved forecourts to the shops. These will both stimulate trade and prevent traffic hold-ups due to illegal parking.



Primary Schools near the main road - Myatt Garden, Ashmead and Lucas Vale, have declining numbers - about 7 - 8% a year. Because of this the catchment areas have been relaxed, no longer using the main road as a boundary; there are now 186 pupils who cross the road to reach their schools, not to mention crossing to reach parks etc.

## COLLEGES

It is hard to assess the effects of these on the main road except in the parking problems, the dead trees and the visual desert of the car park at the end of Tressillian Road, the continuance of cafés and shops, serving the large daytime population of these colleges.

In 1980 there will be 2,000 more day and evening students: the numbers rising from 7,000 to 9,000.

Expansion of buildings is not envisaged, except for students housing or a union in and around 16A Tressillian Road.

## POSSIBILITIES FOR CHANGE

An opportunity for improvement exists at the moment because bordering the road there are Housing Action Areas (round Amersham Road, round Halesworth Road, and probably round Malpas Road), and Conservation Areas (Brockley St. Johns and Somerset Gardens).

Finance for some changes may be available from the DOE, Lewisham Borough, Eyesore grants and the Civic Trust.

## NEW HOUSING

Action by the Borough is planned in three areas. The Congregational Church Site at the corner of Upper Brockley Road, behind the War Memorial. Work is starting now on 3 storey flats looking very much like the next door listed houses. These should be finished in a years time.

The land behind the filling station off Somerset Gardens - 3 storey flats matching the next door houses. Work will probably start next year in 1980.

St. Johns Church Hall site and land behind. A planning application for 2 and 3 storey flats is due later this year.

Other possibilities for improvement are:-

The encouragement of specialist shops - antiques, bookshops, angling shops, craft shops etc.

Rear service access to some groups of shops

A car park - small not several storeys

A market

Forecourt paving - the paving near the Wickham Arms in Upper Brockley Road is a good precedent

New buildings on the burnt car showroom site and Pynes site

Tree planting

A painting face lift

Improvements to houses, fences, walls, hedges, especially between Goldsmiths and Malpas Road

In the short term keeping shop forecourts and pavements clear of rubbish

Other ideas:-

A foot route to avoid the dusty walk to Lewisham e.g. past Loampit Vale

More cheerful shop windows occupied by offices etc.

Green signposts to local parks

Better street furniture i.e. lamp posts and replacing ugly bollards with trees and paved forecourts

## YOUR IDEAS ARE NEEDED

Contact anyone on the list — or your road rep with ideas and opinions.

We don't have to accept ugliness as part of our everyday lives.

Raymond Crawford  
Rob Goodbody  
Gill Heywood  
Chris Johnson

Maureen Mayers  
John Park  
Chairman 692-1  
Juliet Johnson  
Hon. Sec. 692-1