

The *Little London* Times

The newsletter of the **T** Little London
Tenants & Residents Association.

Council claims Little London is: "Community on the Edge"

COBBLERS!

is an old word
for shoe repairers

A Council report, obtained by the Little London Tenants & Residents Association (LLTRA), says about Little London:

- ⊗ It has no community spirit and massive turnover of homes.
- ⊗ We're all uneducated, unemployable or retired.
- ⊗ No one wants to live here.

'We're not sure which Little London this report is about,' Says LLTRA Chair, Andrew Coley, 'because this doesn't sound like our community.'

The report recommends the only way to regenerate Little London is by having 'less social housing' (council homes) and 'significant remodelling of the estate' i.e. demolition. All this to attract 'the right kind of new owners into the area' mostly young professionals who can't afford to live elsewhere in the city centre!

University Lecturer Stuart Hodgkinson, who is an independent advisor to the LLTRA has assessed the report 'It tries to make Little London seem a lot worse than it is. It uses language tricks and selective use of statistics and data to prove its points.'

'We all know Little London needs investment,' says LLTRA Chair Andrew, 'but it is terrifying if the Council believes all the codswallop in this report. It just sees Little London as prime land to build new homes for wannabe yuppies!'

Inside: DEMOLISHED & DOWNSIZED....GUTS....& MUCK!

Little London Community Day 2007 **Saturday June 9th**

Want to get involved?

- Calling all Artists, Musicians, Dancers Showcase your talents
- Something you want to sell Cakes, Crafts? Some stalls are still available
- Paid Stewards and Volunteers needed

Contact: Katie, Community Action Little London on 2348877 or
calls_developmentworker@yahoo.com

CALLS 

DEMOLISHED & DOWNSIZED!

Tenants of Carlton Towers and maisonettes are being forced not only to move but downsize. If a single person or couple happen to have more rooms than West North West Homes judges they need, they are being told NOT to bid on the same sized homes.

Yet leaseholders and homeowners, who agree to swap homes get **LIKE FOR LIKE**. So why the two tier system, are council tenants **2nd Class citizens**?! The Little London Tenants & Residents Association has made strong representations to the ALMO to protest against this state of affairs.

LLTRA reps are also hearing some people are **too scared** to complain, as this might affect their chances in the bidding process. Anyone unhappy about being **DOWNSIZED**, or anything else to do with re-housing issues should contact LLTRA (contact details on back page).

LOVELLS FATE HANGS ON 'GUT FEELING'

In March residents of the 3 Lovell tower blocks got together to discuss the fate of their homes, that are not part of the PFI regeneration.

After months of silence, the residents called a meeting and invited Council rep's along to explain what was going on. Residents spoke about the state of their homes and poor management of the communal areas. But all agreed they liked their homes, one spoke passionately about the **'fantastic community spirit'** in her block. **'We all know and help each other, the block's like a village.'**

Project Manager Michael Philips said that the original plans, to sell off the homes to a private firm, had been shelved after the Council caved in to pressure from the residents. He said the homes needed more money spending on them than the Council could afford, but was forced to admit he had no real evidence for this, it was merely a **'gut feeling'**.

Tenants also spoke to an advisor from AFCE (Agency For Community Empowerment), a group who can look at ideas for improvements to homes from the point of view of residents.

There is another meeting of Lovell tower block residents on

**MONDAY 30TH April In
Lovell Park Court sheltered housing at 7pm**

Voice of the *Times*

No more demolitions or sell offs

Since May of last year the Little London Tenants & Residents Association (LLTRA) has been attempting to talk to the Council about the regeneration of the neighbourhood.

As you may know, the LLTRA was not happy with the way the Council chose PFI as the way forward. The committee felt that the Council were **'economic' with the truth**, when it came to how everyone in the community would be **affected by the regeneration**.

The LLTRA has been trying to get some guarantees out of the Council about how the regeneration will be carried out. One of the most important is that **they promise** there will be **no more demolitions or sales** in the area after Carlton Towers and the maisonettes.

The Council are **dragging their feet** and for some reason won't **just come out and say YES** to this. Why so? This should concern everyone of us. Especially when you look at what the Council seems thinks about Little London. (see our report on page 1).

Without cast iron guarantees that no more of our homes will be lost, we fear developers will have a free hand to ransack this community.

Get yourself heard

The LLTRA needs your support. The committee comes from all over the neighbourhood, but we could still do with more people to get involved.

For just a few hours of your time every month you're helping to give the community a real voice – without that voice the Council will go on believing the **'lies, dam lies and statistics'** that their reports tell them.

The Editor

The muck stops here

It's all the rage to grow your own food these days.

As a lot of people in Little London don't have gardens, not even balconies, a group of residents are lobbying to have **ALLOTMENTS** here. If you're interested in this, please get in touch with Katie at CALLS: T 2348877, calls_developmentworker@yahoo.com

MEET THE COMMITTEE OF THE LLTRA

LITTLE LONDON TENANTS & RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION: Their job is to represent you!

Who are the LLTRA Committee? Over the next few issues we'll introduce you to the current members who represent YOU. They are a wide range of ages, backgrounds, beliefs and interests. What they have in common is that they all live in Little London, are volunteers, care about what happens to every resident of Little London. The LLTRA say:

'No-one knows better than the people who live here what's good for Little London.'

Margaret Spink. Secretary has lived in Little London for 52 years, currently in the Carlton houses. Now retired, she did all sorts of jobs, including working for the civil service, providing equipment for the disabled. After retiring, she decided that she'd like to be involved in the area and joined the committee, and has been a member for over ten years. She is a founder member of Community Action Little London and Servias (CALLS) and has helped with arranging the community days.

Livija Upmalis. Joint Vice-Chair, has lived in Leeds since she was three, and in Little London on and off for the last thirty years. When she worked she was a cook, in hospitals and a girls' boarding school. Her involvement in the committee began when she went to a couple of open meetings, then about five years ago put her hand up at the AGM to become a member. She is a warden of the Lupton Church in Headingley, and is studying for a degree with the Open University.

Ian F Edwards. The only southerner on the committee, he's lived in Leeds for eight years and Little London for six. He has worked as an economist in the cement industry, consultancy and government, and is currently lecturing in business studies at the LMU and in economics at the University of Leeds, where he is also studying for a doctorate. After strongly and loudly criticising the Council at a public meeting in 2006, he became involved in the committee. He has very strong views on government and politics and cares passionately about the issues facing the area. In his spare time he enjoys dancing to punk rock music.

OATLANDS NEWS

A friendly family run shop at the heart of the community

**POST OFFICE
CONVENIENCE STORE**

&

NEWSAGENTS

*the holiday season approaches
get your....*

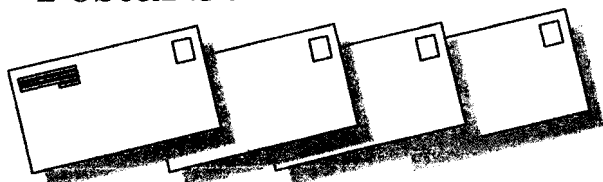
Travel Money here!

Euros plus over 70 currencies available through our pre-order service



Postal Services

Groceries & Sweets



Opening times

Monday to Friday

6am to 9pm

Saturday

6am to 730pm

Sunday

6.30am to 8pm

LITTLE LONDON 'the happening community'

There's so much going on! Here's just a sample of some of the organisations, venues, events and activities for you to join in...



CARING TOGETHER in Woodhouse & Little London



A local neighbourhood scheme for older people, working with over 300 people living in Woodhouse & Little London. Founded in 1995, it offers advice and activities that help older people to remain living independently in their own communities. For older people over age 60 and anyone over 55 who has a long-term health condition. Activities include:

*Carers' groups Men's group 3 healthy living activity groups Advice on Health Through Warmth
Community Choir Walking & Swimming groups Annual day trips and parties
Assisted grocery shopping scheme Craft group Small therapeutic groups Bedding scheme*

For more information about Caring Together please contact Cherril Cliff, Senior Manager, on **2430298**

LITTLE LONDON ARTS – a resident organisation providing creative activities in the community – including::

Adults Arts Classes + Drop-in Session on Tuesdays 1pm - 3pm at Space@ Little London – just come along to join the class, or to find out more about what LLArts does in the area.

Past Present Future Little London – photography & writing project: usually meets Thursday
For details contact Hannah: tel 2161138, email littlelondonarts@supaworld.com, or call in to see her at Space@ on Tuesdays 1-3pm.

LITTLE LONDON COMMUNITY CENTRE, Oatland Lane, tel 2469224. Providing **Café, Bingo, Youth Service** activities, local meetings including **LLTRA Open Meeting on 26th June**

LITTLE LONDON ARTS

local creative activities for all ages

- **weekly arts classes**, adults + children
- **special projects**, training & volunteering
- **community events**, exhibitions
- **publicity production**, promotional services

For further information contact Hannah on:
T 2161138 e littlelondonarts@supaworld.com

Little London Gardening Club



Thursday 10-12pm
at **Space@Little London**

Learn to grow and maintain plants, flowers and vegetables from seed, as well as practical exercise in our community allotments.

All in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.
FREE LESSONS AND SEEDS TO TAKE HOME

USEFUL NUMBERS:

LCC general enquiries	2548080
Leeds NW Homes	3984701
Police non-emergency	0845 6060 606
Noise Nuisance out of hours	2407361
Rubbish Collection - bulky items	3984760
Housing Repairs – emergency	2478500
Anti Social Behaviour Unit	3984701

DO YOU WANT TO CONTACT US?

LLTRA

LITTLE LONDON TENANTS & RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Comments, questions, advice, etc

Address: The Secretary, LLTRA

c/o LL Community Centre, Oatland Lane, LS7 1SP

Email: littlelondontenantsandresidents@yahoo.co.uk

Tel: 07866 663257 Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

The Little London Times

Letters/comment for publication:

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