

HULME



PUBLIC INFORMATION GAZETTE

Birley Must Stay

Last month Mr Michael Howard, Minister for the Environment, visited Hulme to inspect the local labour scheme. Acting on information received the night before, two members of Birley decided to get a group together to meet the Minister to present the case for Birley. About forty students and teachers came along and blocked the entrance to Hulme Regeneration Ltd where Mr Howard was due at two o'clock. Students from Birley wired two huge signs, saying 'BIRLEY CENTRE', to the railings outside Hulme Regeneration and waited with placards.

It was past two when a large car drew up and the Minister leapt out, hand outstretched to greet the peaceful delegation. He spoke for some minutes to three people who put the case for Birley passionately but clearly. He also took away with him a document which told him in more detail the work that Birley does in the area. The students felt the demonstration was very successful and were pleased they had managed to speak to the Minister. The Birley Consultative Group has decided to build on this success and is planning to organise a big parade in May at the end of Adult Learners Week. The



Students of the Birley Centre awaiting the arrival of Michael Howard MP

parade will be a celebration of the work that Birley does and of the achievements of the students and users of the Centre. It will also raise the profile of the Centre and, hopefully, encourage the Council to re-think its decision. Above all, it will be fun. The Birley Centre Consultative Group would like everyone who uses and value the Centre to take part. So,

if this interests you or your group, they would like to hear from you. You can contact Kate Hinds on 226 8298 for more information or see John Coulsey at the Centre.

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Happy Easter from all at the P.I.G. Listen, I know things are hotting up under City Challenge, but I reckon that we need a lot more humour and general articles of a non serious nature to give a bit of balance to this august organ. So, get writing or drawing now!

I would like to give my personal thanks to all the tenants who turned up at Proctors for the Hulme 4 Planning Day. It really made it worth while. The results of the day will be published soon and we can go on to the next stage of the process.

Some of the more observant of you will have noticed that the next issue will see the 21st birthday of the P.I.G. If we can get our act together, it will be a bumper celebration issue.

We think we have done really well since June 1991 to have kept going, and we are now breaking even on a regular basis - which is good news for the people we owe money to.

By the way, if any one out there has a nice computer going spare, we'd like to hear from you as the one we borrow time on is getting a bit crowded. And while you're at it, an A3 laser printer would be useful too.

Minister Checks New Hulme Jobs

Environment Secretary Michael Howard visited Hulme last month to check out a unique new homes and local job creation scheme on the Boundary Lane site on Hulme 3. The Project is being co-ordinated by Hulme Regeneration Ltd and the Moss Side and Hulme Community Development Trust, and has the Guinness Trust and Manchester based builders Roland Bardsley Ltd as partners.

A major objective of all new build schemes in Hulme is to ensure that, through the Local Labour Scheme, at least 20% of the labourforce will be made up of local people. As far as work on Hulme 3 is concerned, the scheme has been so successful that Roland Bardsley now employ over 50% of people from Hulme at the Boundary Lane development. Michael Bardsley, managing director of their contracting division confirms, "We are delighted to be involved in the pro-

gramme. It will restore a great deal of confidence into the area whilst providing much needed quality housing. Danny Doherty (Manager of the Local Labour Scheme) has done a superb job in matching our labour requirements to local people. His enthusiasm has been infectious, and he has helped put together a skilled and hard-working team."

Elsewhere in Hulme, people are not so happy. Questions are being raised as to the amount of local



labour which is involved in the demolition work that is taking place all over the area. Hulme Regeneration's response has been that demolition is skilled work and that there are simply not the people in Hulme who fit the job description.

There is also a feeling

amongst Hulme residents that developers are willing to take on unskilled labourers - provided that they are subsidised for doing so - but that they are not interested in people who are skilled workers who they would have to pay at full rates. The P.I.G. is sure that the next press release

that we receive will be celebrating the amount of skilled workers who have been employed as a result of City Challenge.

If you would like more information about the Local Labour Scheme, contact Danny Doherty on 226 1066 or Jenny Lynn at Hulme Regen on 226 2323.

safe as houses

To mark the Crescents demolition, a show was held in the theatre of William Kent. Speech and pictures showing how we had been. Music and dancers as the last parties on the third and fifth floors took place behind eerily replaced windows. Drums and JCBs as the Hard Hats moved in. Then back to the ground. An entire living room, furniture dancing. I saw many people that weren't there. Neighbours of old, friends riding bicycles home on the deck in the early hours. A skeleton staring over all. The bird women abseiled, cars crashed down and flames engulfed the skeleton. Explosions, the torch bowl pouring a stream of fire from the roof, a steady flow to the ground. I expect you heard it. I hope you were there. This was our home.



End Of A Dream

The first phase of Crescent demolition is well under way, with flats falling at a rate seeming to be dozens a day. Robert Adam Crescent is under the hammer at the moment, with some clear-out work still to be completed on William Kent.

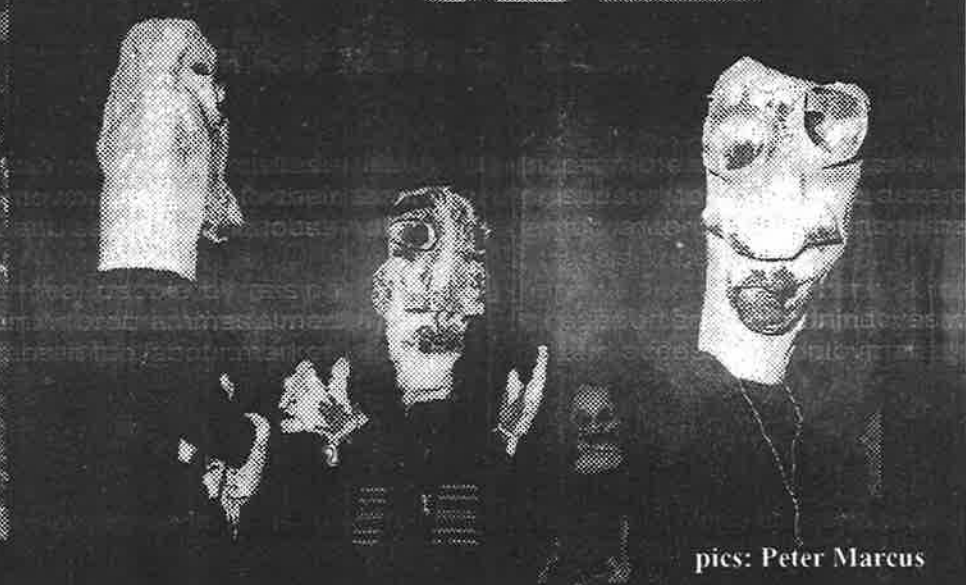
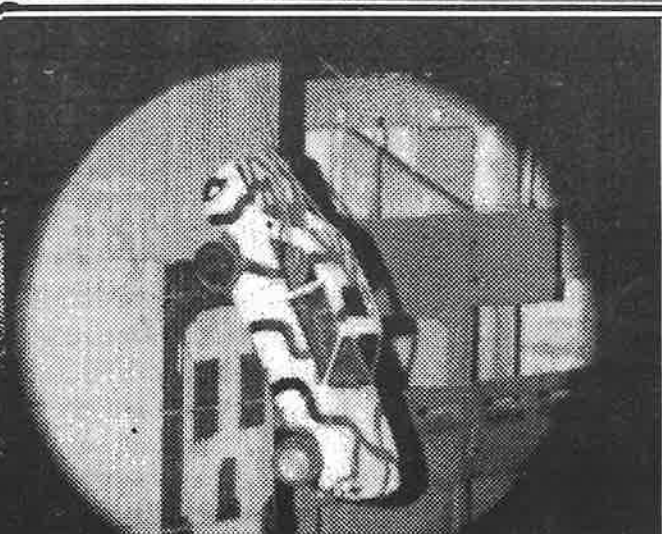
The demolition contract was set for more than 52 weeks, but the current rate of progress makes it look as though it can be completed much quicker. Levelling the site after demolition is said to be an easier part of the job.

The demolition gang haven't hit the gas main under there, which is good. As yet, we can see no sign of the new electricity sub-station which will have to replace the one under William Kent to keep the lights on in South Hulme. You'd think the Council would have got round to that month's ago.

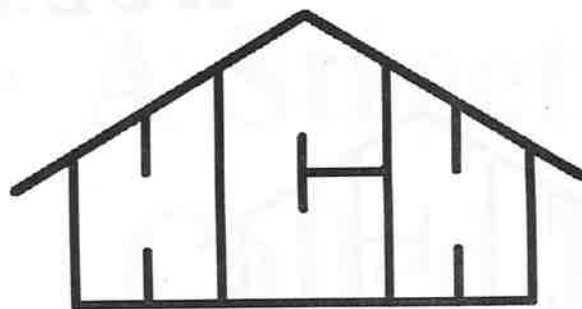
People who have lived or still live in the Crescents have begun the process of selecting architects to design the new rented housing. There have been a couple of meetings and a survey to get views on what is important to tenants and to get those interested together to see which architects to interview for the job. Once that's done,

the design can be worked out, with all Hulme 5 tenants invited to take part. The Council and the Housing Association say the design should be finished by the end of May. There's a problem with that. One thing that architects like, as well as being paid, is to know what piece of land they're supposed to be designing for.

Now the Hulme sub-committee had a meeting, which they didn't publicise to tenants like they should, on Wednesday March 24th. In this meeting they decided to give a piece of land to the Housing Association, roughly corresponding to where Robert Adam Crescent is. They said that the boundaries of this land were



pics: Peter Marcus



Elections

"flexible". Now they had to give them a piece of land before March 31st, so the money for building work at the best rate wouldn't be lost. It makes sense for the boundaries to be flexible, since no-one's quite agreed where it's best to put the new houses. But it's going to give the architects a bit of a problem isn't it? Many of us from the Crescents would be quite happy with somewhere to park a 'van, we like flexible boundaries, but on the other hand, the money is supposed to build 146 houses and flats which will still be good in 60 years.

Park View

Happily for the Council, tenants have selected which bits of land, out of all the Crescents, they would like their new homes built on. We had a quick look at the results of this survey, which was conducted by the Housing Association and isn't yet published. It shows that what most people want, by a long margin, is the land that will overlook the new park. This will be where part of Charles Barry is now. Site H was favourite, with 35 people putting it

in their top three, site N was next with 28 and site D had 27 people selecting it in their first three. The favourite choices in the Robert Adam site got 14, 13 and 11 people's choice respectively. So, as long as the flexibility extends from Robert Adam to those parts of Charles Barry and Hawksmoor people have chosen, we get some of what we want.

Higher Rents

Too easy? Well, yes. The sites chosen by tenants will not be cleared for building by the end of this financial year. That means that in the following year, the money given to the housing association will be reduced by 5%, which is quite a lot, when you think of the cost of 146 houses. So the missing 5% would probably be charged on the rent. Many of us get housing benefit, but some of us don't. And what of the Council? Well, their idea of flexibility is that private housebuilders can have the pieces of land they want. It's a long road, from losing a community to gaining a home that you choose. For more information, contact Philip Bradley at 9 Otterburn, 226 1987.

If it's April it must be time for the HCH (M/cr) election results. Candidates stood in six areas this year and so by far and away the winner was VACANT as can be seen from the table below. This has two major effects - it puts much more pressure on the representatives who were elected, and it means that large swathes of Hulme are unrepresented on the body which will make all the decisions about social housing for the next four years! More about that later, but first the results.

Bentley House		Hulme 3 Multis	
Frank Shenoda	16	Margaret Sands	85
Peter Marcus	14	RON	3
RON	4		
District Centre		Hulme 3 Walk Ups	
Sue Henley	10	Richard Lockwood	20
RON	4	RON	0
Hulme 2		Hulme 4	
Mary Maloney	68	Colin Rowan	41
RON	8	Dan Aris	9
		RON	5

advertisement

If your area is not mentioned in the result box below, it means that no one stood for election and the positions of representative and deputy are vacant. These areas are: Aquarius, Hulme 3 Decks, the Crescents, Shawgreen, St Bees, St Georges and South Hulme.

If HCH is to work effectively, this situation has to change and, over the next few weeks and months, Geraldine Flanagan (HCH Resource Worker) and the Tenant Involvement Workers from 9 Otterburn Close will be out on these estates trying to get people to come forward and stand in bye elections for the vacant positions.

Meanwhile, individual training packages are being set up for those who have been elected **and** those who are thinking about standing for HCH but want some help first. They are designed to increase people's confidence, improve communication skills as well as going through the boring things like how to chair meetings, take notes and report information back to the rest of the tenants.

If you do want to get involved in HCH, your first port of call should be Geraldine Flanagan at 9 Otterburn Close - tel: 226 1914. To call a bye election you simply need to get 5 people from your area to write to Geraldine asking for one.

More details about the training opportunities will be dropping through your door soon - your area needs you!

T H E G O V E R N M E N T ' S

MOSS SIDE



AND HULME

Task Force

Working to:

- increase employment prospects for Task Force residents, by identifying and removing barriers to their employment and by creating and safeguarding jobs.
- improve the employability of local people by raising skills levels and supporting training programmes aimed at specific jobs or identified gaps in the labour market.
- promote local enterprise development through support for enterprise development through support for enterprise training, financial and managerial assistance.
- support education initiatives which improve attainment and access to employment.

Greenheys Business Centre, Units 40-47, 10 Pencroft Way, Hulme, Manchester M15 6JJ.
Telephone: 061-226 8899. Fax: 061-226 3215

HULME P.I.G. End Of An Era



Mad Dogs and Crusties went out in style at Willie Kent bash - more pictures on page 4

Fest '93

Hulme may be falling about our ears, and certain "Out Of Hulme" elements seem to think this decrepidation is an excuse to fill our lives with cowardly criminal acts, but our spirits won't be dampened.

New houses are being built and we want to attract new blood to the area, at the same time stimulating and sustaining our existing community. To this end, the 1993 Hulme Festival will be held over the weekend of the 4-6 June on Birley fields (better weather, more people!).

The weekend will incorporate events for young and elderly, sound and unsound alike in a carnival atmosphere with "party" being the central theme. This is an

opportunity to promote the area and have lots of fun. Events organised so far include: Tea Dance, Caribbean Disco, Childrens Day & Tea Party, Films, Music, Cabaret, Theatre, Stalls, Information Stands and Outdoor Performance.

For further information, contact 226 7840 and keep reading your P.I.G. for updated info and public meetings - WAY TO GO.

Credit Where It's Due

Dan Aris, Backbiter, Birley Cartoonist, Tim Cleal, Peter Dungey, Kate Hinds, Helen Lagoe, Richard Lockwood, Peter Marcus, Rob Ramwell, Helene Rudlin, Lynne Skipworth, Anne Smyth, Brigitte Soltan and Ann Williams
Apologies to Laura Bond for missing her off last issues credits.
Co-ordinated by Colin Rowan

P.I.G. OUT

Another list of things that you probably can't afford to trot out to in the coming month! If you want more local, free and easy things in this column, then let us in on what is going on and where - if you don't tell us, we ain't putting it in!

Friday 9th April

Local Rootsy Reggae the **FREEDOMMASSES**, Band On The Wall £3.50/£4.50

Saturday 10th April

Otterburn Close's John Robb fronts **SENSURROUND** promoting NME single of the week 'When I Get To Heaven' at the Boardwalk, Little Peter Street, M15

Wednesday 14th April

INNER CITY, THE REESE PROJECT, The Hacienda, 10pm-4am. £10

Thursday & Friday 15th -16th April

THE ORB, Manchester Academy, £10

Friday 23rd April

SHEEP ON DRUGS, Academy. £5

Tuesday 27th April

Irish Rappers **MARXMAN** promote '33 Revolution Per Minute' LP The Boardwalk

Friday 7th May

THE FALL, Manchester Uni Union, £8.50

Friday 14th May

Procession/rally at the Town Hall in support of the **BIRLEY CENTRE** - watch this space and Birley, Malarky's etc for further details... meanwhile, finish off a hard day at the office with... Twice heroes of the Hulme Festival, **RDF**, intimidate the students at the Uni Union, £5

Exhibitionists!

Is that Albert Square I see before me besieged by semi-naked cybernetic urbanites- Oh yes indeed, it's our very own "sweet" boys from **Original Gravity** dressed from head to toe in **Sunday best**.

On a day's outing with their latest anarchic creation the "Scorpion Siege Machine" (designed and constructed by Boon and Fish) - and all because the lady loves Art in the Urban Environment. A special Hulme offering to the "New Voices in the City" which took place at the Town Hall between the 15 and 21 March.

Also taking place in the Great Hall during the week was an exhibition of a more restrained nature, ICA Inc took a "stand" to promote the idea of establishing cultural industries in Hulme and Moss Side exhibiting work from artists, poets and performers together with ideas for future projects and collaborations. This exhibition can be seen at the Birley Centre from April onwards, and everyone is invited to add their ideas, creations and views. The next meeting of ICA will take place at the Birley Centre, notification will be given through the exhibition, so, another good reason to go have a look.



pic: Ann Williams