

The fourth in a series of articles

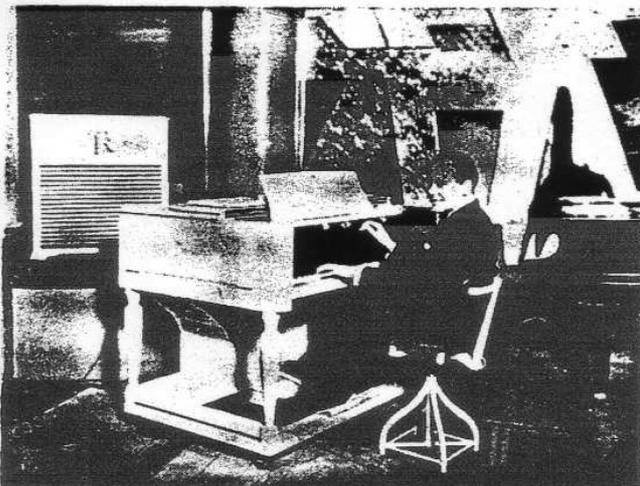
The History of Clissold Court

Joyce Palmer's article in the last edition brought us up to 1969 and now Joyce has produced a copy of Freshwaters' own newspaper Freshview from her archives. The date is November 1969. We reproduce extracts which we feel are of special interest. Many people still remember the then Supervisor, Roy Linsdell, and I understand that some of them still hear from his wife. Joyce's husband was also featured in this issue.

We also reproduce snippets showing the advantages of living in a Freshwater block ...

Know your neighbour

Eddie Palmer Pianist and Bandleader



A PICTURE FROM THE PAST

"Tonight and every night at the Novachord—Eddie Palmer. This was the announcement that heralded Mr. Palmer's solo spot during his several years with the famous Oscar Rabin Band.

Mr. Palmer, now a Freshwater tenant living at Clissold Court, N.4, has played with several big dance bands as well as having his own band and playing in the orchestra pit at several famous shows.

With Maurice, he came back to England and played at venues like the Dorchester before returning to France for more dates. The band were able to get back to England just before the war broke out.

Mr. Palmer's first musical job during the war years was playing the Hammond organ at Earl's Court ice rink.

"I played the organ right in the middle of the rink with all the skaters going round me. Luckily for me, that job didn't last long as I soon met Oscar Rabin."

As well as playing piano with Oscar's band, Mr. Palmer was featured on the Novachord, a unique instrument which is no longer in existence, which was a sort of electric piano with organ sounds.

London Clubs. He was also broadcasting frequently.

In 1953, however, Mr. Palmer made a big decision when he decided to try orchestra pit work.

"I went to the Coliseum to play with a new American musical, 'Guys and Dolls'. I was with the show for 17 months and stayed in the same theatre pit when 'Can-Can' opened.

"I was with 'Can-Can' for 12 months and each night the spotlight was turned on me when I played an accordion solo.

"My next show was the one I liked best, 'Irma la Douce'. I never got tired of playing the music although I was with the show for four years. It had some really lovely music."

Since that time I spent three sea

at an Isle of Wight holiday camp and one of his many other jobs has been playing for a fortnight for "Miss World", Anne Sidney, when she went on a cabaret tour.

"Anne used to come to the flat for practice and my son Bix felt nervous when one evening he went across to the pub with her. She was a nice girl."

Bix, in fact, is continuing his showbusiness line by working with a record company.

Although playing the piano is his livelihood and chief interest, Mr. Palmer still manages to find time for his other hobbies: painting, making his own films and writing music.

"I've never regretted going into showbusiness and I've realised it's because it's my rest."

Welfare

Care

Extracts from Freshview of November 1969

FROM a letter sent to Freshwater Tenant Welfare Department.

I thank you very much for the kindness and understanding that you have shown me. I did not even realise that the Freshwater Group were so warmly concerned with their tenants.

Although I have read in some detail the monthly magazine I thought it was only publicity. But I am amazed with the thoughts of kindness they can issue to people in this day and age of savage selfishness.

It has in some way restored my belief that some human beings do care about others after all.

**AROUND THE
PROPERTIES WITH
MARTIN ROSS**

ATMOSPHERE IS ALL IMPORTANT

APART FROM all the other considerations such as rent, rates and the general condition of the property, it's "atmosphere" that can make up the mind of a tenant thinking of moving into a block.

One of the best people who can gauge the atmosphere is, of course, the Property Supervisor. The Supervisor at Clissold Court, N4, Mr. Roy Linsdell, has turned down four opportunities of moving to other larger Freshwater blocks. This must be one of the highest compliments that a Supervisor could make about his block.

"The people at Clissold Court are all very nice people and I've made friends with many of them. I wouldn't want to move from here simply because I like it so much." Clissold Court, which has some 70 flats, is situated in a quiet cul-de-sac and Clissold Park, one of the most delightful in this part of London, is right opposite the



CLISSOLD COURT, LONDON, N4

ONE NUMBER SOLVES YOUR PROBLEMS

THE TELEPHONE NUMBER 828 9898 means for some 6,000 people the answer to all their maintenance problems. When you dial that number you get the One Number Service, a company which carries out a vast range of household service.

Earlier this year, the Freshwater Group negotiated special subscription rates exclusively for their tenants and the response to this has been so great that it has been decided to extend the arrangement until the end of the year.

For a first year's subscription of four guineas, One Number offer membership of a unique service providing the answers to all problems that a flat-dweller is likely to face.

The One Number organisation is divided into three sections, Patrol Division, General Services and Purchasing.

The Patrol Division's 40-50 vans are on hand to deal with any household emergencies at any time

of the day or night. About half of the vans are driven by plumbers while half of the remainder are used by electricians and carpenters. Once you have rung 828 9898, the patrol van will be sent to your home straight away.

General Services covers almost everything, from baby-sitters to furniture repairs and from French polishers to gardeners and television repairers.

The Purchasing Services can supply household appliances with generous discounts and delivery is free for goods over £15.

At this time of the year, also, the company are able to supply many of those items, including wines and spirits, which are needed to make the season a really merry one.

block so that many tenants have a fine view of this open, green space. Also nearby are some Metropolitan Water Board "towers" and it wasn't all that long ago that mothers would take their children to hear the "giant" walking up and down the stairs. The noise was really the clanking of the water pumps.

Mr. Linsdell believes that many of the tenants are living in the Court because of its easy access to both the East and West End.

"Most of the people have businesses in one of these areas and we're in easy reach of Manor House Underground station and buses."

There are still several tenants at the Court who were there when the block was built in 1935 and of these is Mrs. Cissie Barcan, who lives with her daughter at No. 1.

When Mrs. Barcan came to the Court there were three porters and a night porter.

"I sold a very nice house to come here but I must say that I've been very comfortable and have got on with everyone. We're not the sort of people who run into each other's flats all the time but the neighbours will help when asked to.

"I must say that Mr. Linsdell is the nicest Supervisor we've had here."

Mr. Linsdell is particularly happy at the block because it is conveniently near the Arsenal and



MR. ROY LINSDELL

not too far away from Lord Cricket Ground.

The spacious grounds also give him plenty of scope for gardening, one of his favourite pastimes. Mr. Linsdell is a perfectionist when it comes to looking after the grounds.

Ask Mr. Linsdell what he feels about living at the Court and his answer will be: "The 2½ years I have been here have been the happiest since I left the Army."

10pc DISCOUNT CAR INSURANCE

A TEN PER CENT discount on a comprehensive car insurance policy. This is what Royal Insurance are offering to Freshwater tenants.

Extracts from *Freshview* of November 1969

Water Damage Insurance

INSURANCE PROBLEMS arising from damage to decorations and fittings can be eliminated for tenants who take the special insurance policy negotiated with Forbes Campbell and Co. Ltd.

For just £1 a year, tenants can be indemnified against the costs of repair and replacement of landlords fixtures and fittings resulting from any kind of water damage up to £1,000 a year.

A comprehensive policy will, in addition, cover tenants' own property and third party liability for a small extra cost. It works out at only 5s. a year for every £100 worth of property insured.

PRIVATE PATIENTS PLAN

PRIVATE PATIENTS PLAN provide full cover for private medical treatment and Freshwater tenants can take advantage of reduced rates of subscription and immediate benefit on acceptance — the normal waiting period of 13 weeks being waived.

CARPET OFFER

A GENEROUS discount of 25 per cent for all branded carpets, furniture and bedding is offered to Freshwater tenants by Interfirm Contracts.

High quality carpets and various furnishings can be seen in showrooms at 11

Bulls Lane, London, W. Their Sales Department number is 935 2353/4.

Reduce your Laundry Bills

PLAN

WASH AND DRY can be cut under the arrangements at the Group with New Era Home Services, of Lower Gravel Road, Bromley Common.

A member of the Guild of Professional Laundries and Dry Cleaners, New Era offer a seven-day delivery/collection service to all tenants in an area covering Hammersmith to the City and from Hampstead to Bromley.

Extra services include shoe and tailoring repairs and eiderdown re-covering.

Tenants interested in the service and who wish to know more about it should contact Mary Bond at 935 2353/4 — she is New Era's Customer Girl.

Extracts from Freshview of November 1969

We would like to continue our History of Clissold Court into the 70s in the next issue. Please contact Annette Percy at No. 21 if you can help with the next episode.

Clissold Park



Forthcoming Events

- 21st-24th April FUN FAIR (Mannings Amusements: in park from 17th)
- 8th May HACKNEY HOMELESS PEOPLE'S FESTIVAL
- 14th May SCRUFFS Dog Show from 11am
- 14th May BROWNIES' FAIR 2pm - 6pm
- 13th-19th June CHURCH STREET FESTIVAL
Eggopolis feature in Park
- 4th-10th July ZIPPO'S CIRCUS
- 9th July BASCO FESTIVAL (another venue is under discussion)
- 9th July VILLAGE MUSIC
- 6th-7th August HACKNEY LESBIAN STRENGTH & GAY PRIDE FESTIVAL

