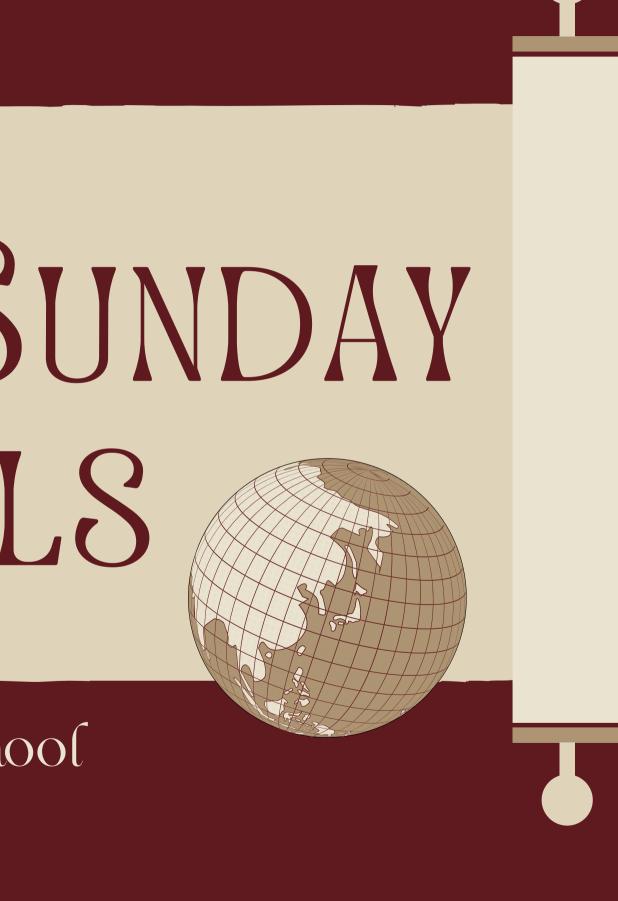
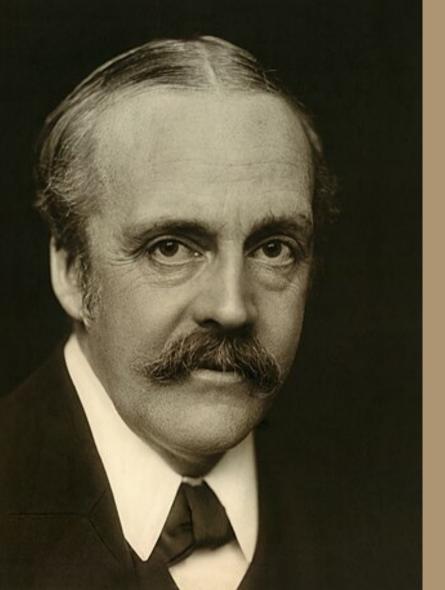
# Discovering ANARCHIST SUNDAY SCHOOLS

by Radical Sunday School



### EDUCATION IN BRITAIN • 1870 Education Act

• 1902 Education Act



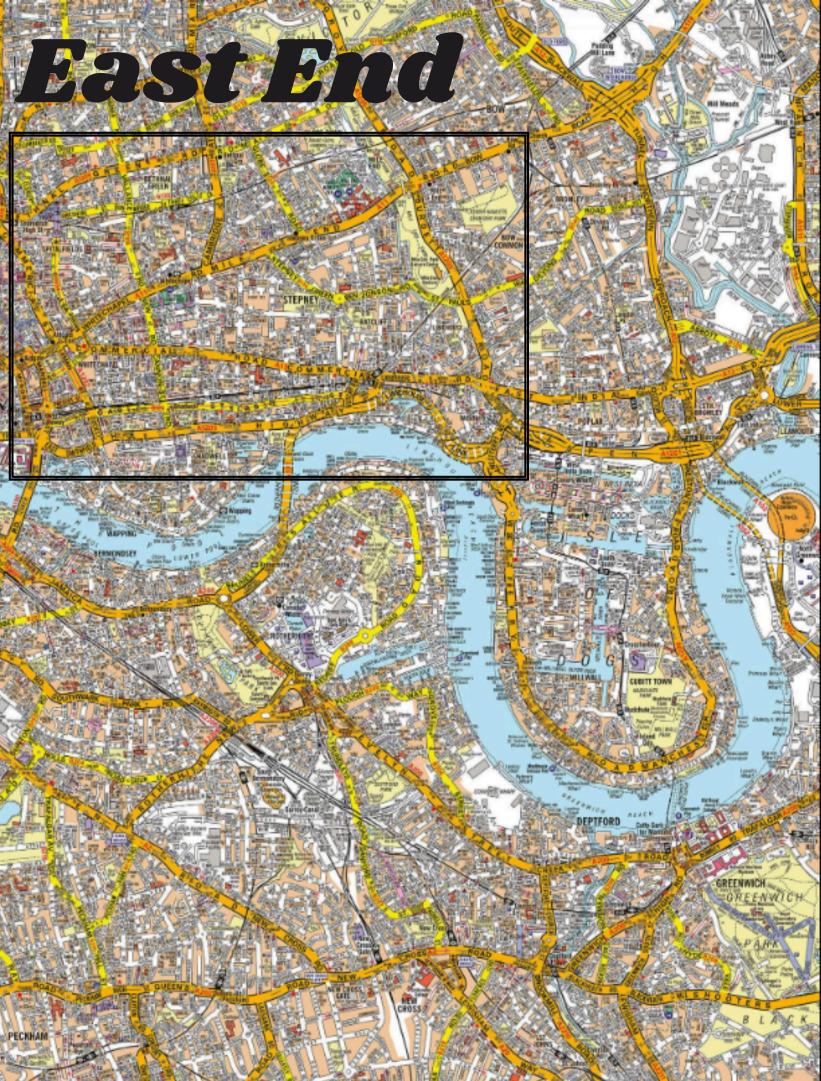
Arthur Balfour





### London, UR

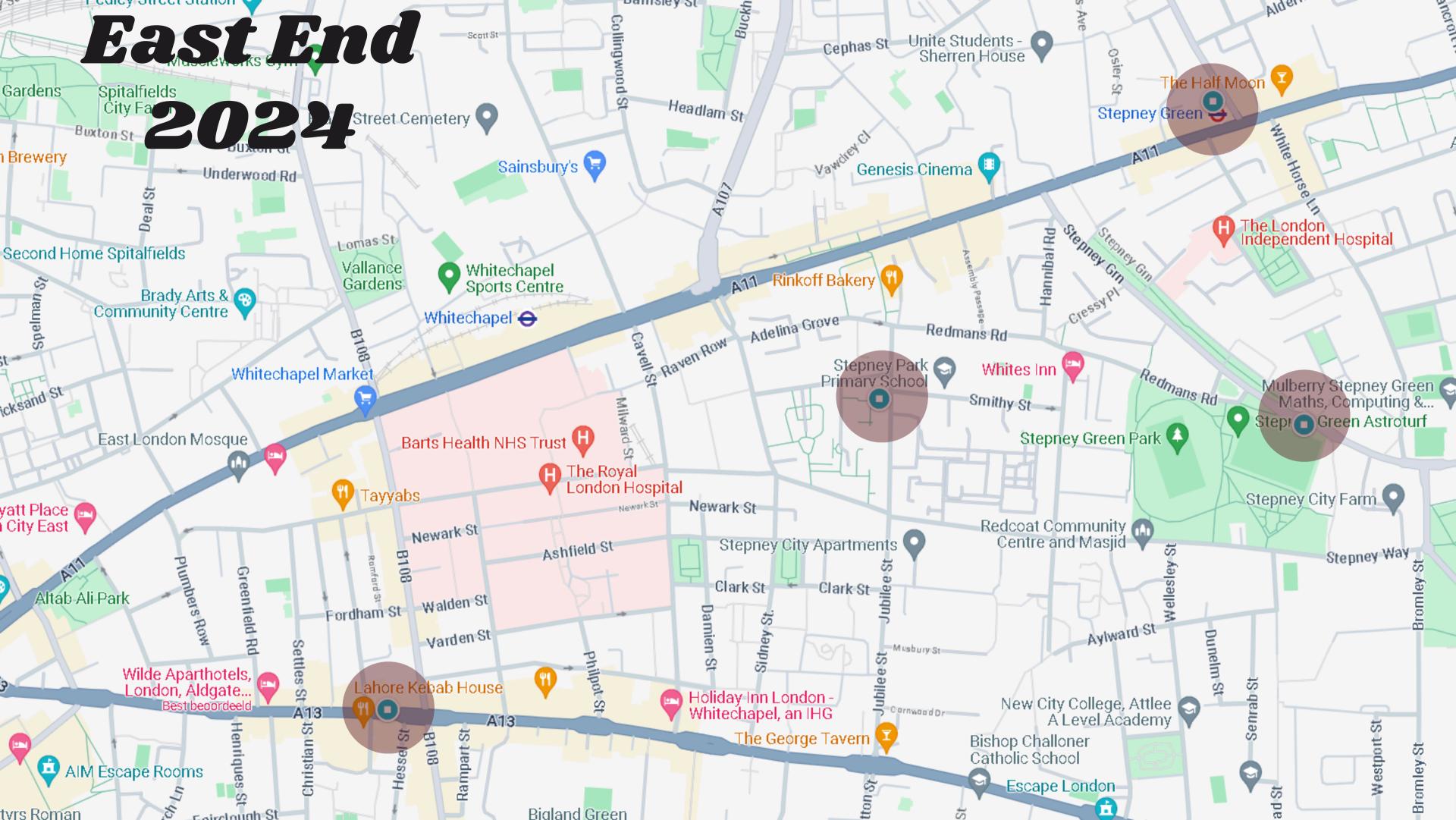
RIVER

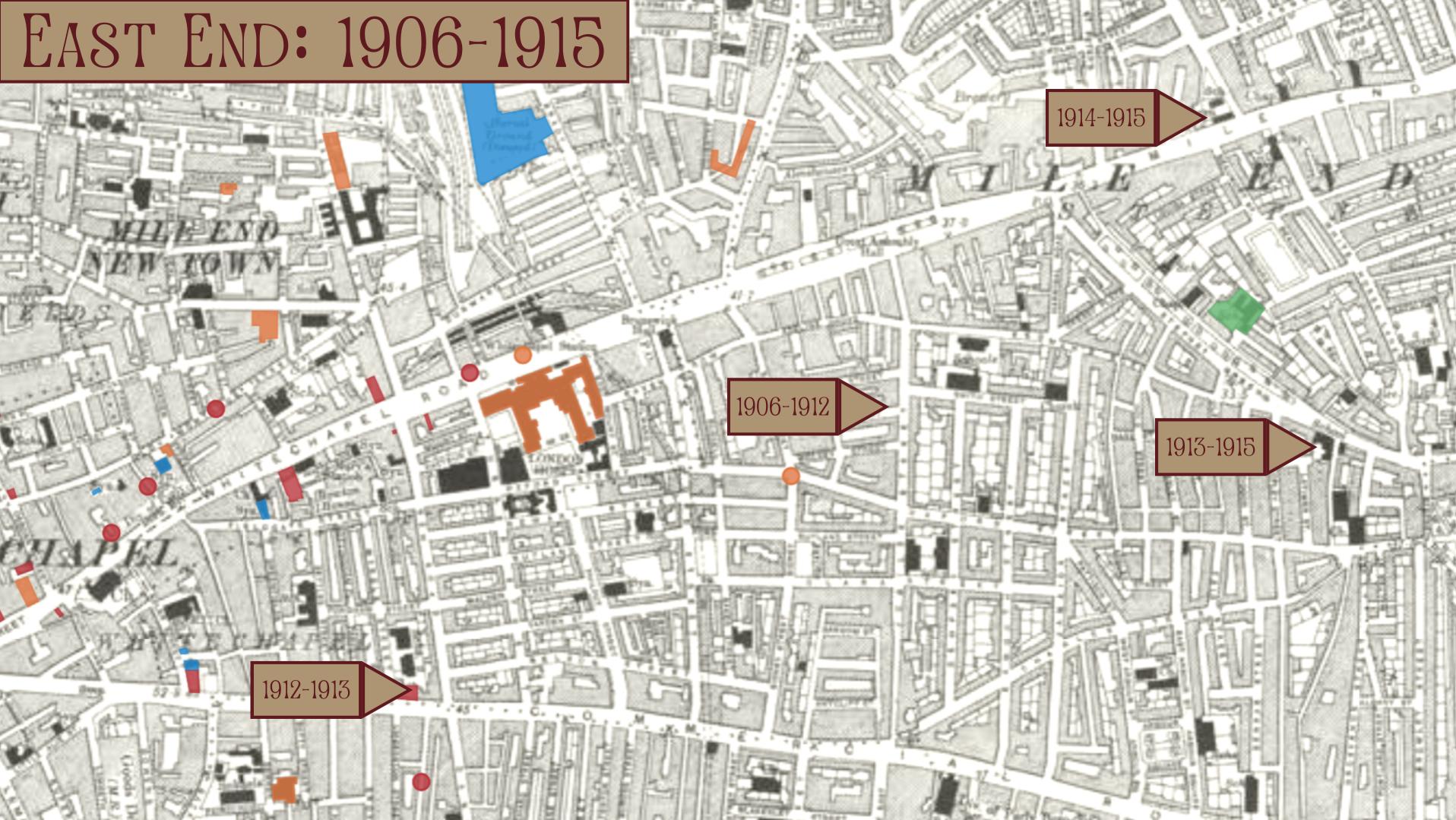


## JUBILEE STREET CLUB









## WALKABLE FREE SKOOLS!

- Plenty of Field Trips!
- 146 Stepney Green to 165 Jubilee Street: 9 min walk

• 165 Jubilee Street to 135 Commercial Road: 16 min walk

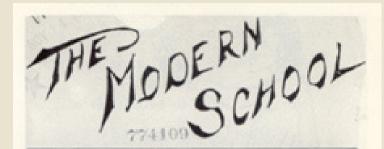
• 165 Jubilee Street to 24 Green St.: 10 min walk

# THE SCHOOL GROWS

### INTERNATIONAL MODERN SCHOOL.

Be it known that the young rebels of the old School have taken up new quarters at 24 Green Street, Cambridge Road, E., where they will foregather every evening for conversation and merrymaking. On Tuesday evenings at 8 o'clock a comrade has volunteered his services to teach French. Thursday evenings at 8 o'clock, discussion and reading class. Sunday afternoons at 3.30, our usual meetings. Fred Dunn, of the *Voice of Labour*, opened our discussion with a chat on "Should Modern School Rebels be Boy Scouts?" The lads are anxious that their endeavour to look after themselves in the carrying on of the School will be responded to by the adults in the shape of monetary help. Subscriptions will be acknowledged in *Voice of Labour* or FREEDOM. Here's luck to the rebels! JIMMY.

### THE MODERN SCHOOL MOVEMENT







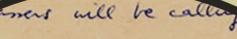


Nellie & Jim Dick Sept. 1921 Stelton, New Jersey



# The London Free School

A very successful failure



#### Longon Free School

#### offers you free education through lectures and discussion groups in subjects essential to our daily life and work

#### HOUSING PROBLEMS

Landlords, rent and what can be done about them. The opportunity to discuss your housing problems with expert advisers.

IMMIGRATION Who are the immigrants and why? Why 'a problem'?

RACE RELATIONS Why do you fear? Why are you feared?

THE COMMUNITY & YOU Why communities exist. How to set up a community. What is a family? Why do you live alone?

CHILDREN Normal, delinquent, bright, backward and otherwise. How to form a nursery school in your street.

ENGLISH TEACHING UNIT Improve your English. EDUCATION what is available? What is available for your child? Night classes; courses, apprenticeships, further training.

**ÚNIONS** Why unions?How to form one. The union principle outside your work.

WAGES AND PRICES why you're paid what you're paid. Why it costs what it costs.

MENTAL HEALTH What is a 'mental breakdown'? How society creates mental illness. What must be changed?

LAW Why it does what it does and how. Can you use it to help yourself? Gaol and other solutions.

MUSIC, ART AND LITERATURE

From your own lives and community. Other people's art, music and literature.

THE LONDON FREE SCHOOL IS NOT POLITICAL, NOT RACIAL, NOT INTELLECTUAL, NOT RELIGION, NOT A CLUB, IT IS OPEN TO ALL

# The context: Notting Hill



**Rachmanism:** extortion or exploitation by a landlord of tenants of dilapidated or slum property, esp. when involving intimidation or use of racial fears to drive out sitting tenants whose rent is fixed at a low rate.



Once-middle class neighborhood, was badly hit by WWII and became soon a multi-cultural, but very poor place.

### The School comes in!

#### Hoppy

#### **Rhaune Laslett**

#### **Micheal X**



Launched on the 8th of March, the LFS aimed at promoting mutual help as a way to increase the unity of the different communities of the neighbourhood

It offered free services and lectures spanning from housing issues to immigration, from mental health to labour rights advice, from arts to family support.

"The most interesting thing about the London Free School for me was its plasticity, meaning nothing was fixed, nothing was very strongly defined [....] there was no hierarchy of control, there was no fixed program for learning, and that meant that it was easy for unusual things to happen because nothing was too well defined."

# The School

ndix B s is Joe Boyd's draft. You may think it needs add d anything below and bring it along to next meeting.

#### STATEMENT of AIMS

The London Free School is an education/action group. ers, artists, writers, social & behavioural scientists, & oth the economic, social, political & cultural welfare of London' ing people.

The purpose of the LFS is to make direct & dynamic contain income groups in residential areas of London with the aim of valuable advice and information, and opening lines of communication

similar interests, talents, problems.

Appendix of the minutes of the London Fee School meeting

The School found a location at Micheal X's house on 26 Powis Terrace and soon started classes.

Soon after its launch, some difficulties emerged, and many of the activities didn't manage to find ways they would fit in with the daily lives of people.

Pete Jenner: "Nothing had been properly planned and, what was worse, hardly anyone from the district came to classes"



Map of 'Interzone A' that was included in the International Times No. 30, 3 May 1968.

We put the name and address of places related to the London Free School on this map. Hoppy's flat, where he and his friends discussed the idea of starting a free school in Notting Hill, was located at 115 Queensway. The fixed location for the London Free School was 26 Powis Terrace, and the LFS used the All Saint's Church Hall for meetings and fund raising events.

However, there were some successes when the School managed to provide something more functional and useful to the needs to the neighbourhood.

One of them was The Grove, a neighbourhood newletter that would have a circulation of up to 2000 copies.

Then we have the family support and adventure playground of Rhaune Laslett.

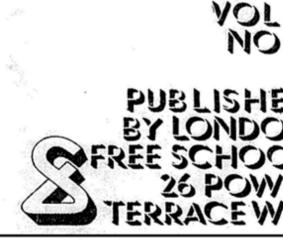
Finally, Micheal X's basic English classes, which were based on an interactive process that sought to include the voices of the participants and make them a part of the teaching process.





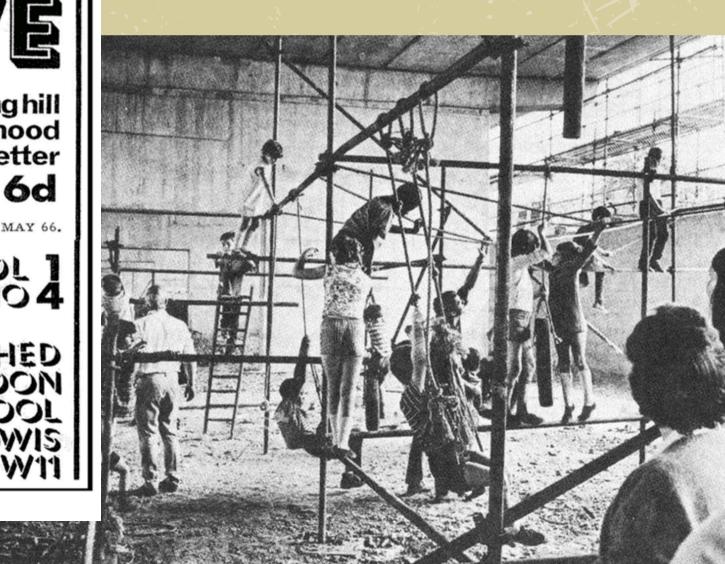
notting hill neighbourhood newsletter

LONDON, MONDAY 23 MAY 66



Cut and paste from The Grow

#### <sup>CC</sup>I LEARNED MORE SOCIAL HISTORY, MORE VIVIDLY, THAN I'D HAVE GOT OUT OF ANY BOOK



### What emerged from the school?

- London Free School in Notting Hill
- Notting Hill Neighbourhood Service
- UFO Club
- Pink Floyd
- International Times
- Notting Hill Carnival





#### PSYCHIC LOVE WAVE EXPLODES ACROSS THE COUNTRY UNIVERSITIES RE-UNIVERSITIES RE-ATTACHED THEMSELVES TO FREEDOMS/ IMMIGRANTS HUGGED IN THE STREETS OF OXFORD

THE BLISS HUG EXPLODES EVERYWHERE

kout dec 23/30; U eley cinema tot.ct.rd.-10 nol,<u>pink floyd,anger,heatin</u> 23: 10/-+FREE MEMBEF

# Happening!



#### september fayre

#### pageant, fireworks, music, plays, poetry

September 1966 will be a landmark in Notting Hill. For the first time this century--apart from a Bank Holiday entertainment that survived until the First World War -- Notting Hill is to have its own Fair. Or Fayre, as they seem to be calling it. An opening pageant, with all the glamour and happiness of the Mardi Gras; a week of evening entertainments at low prices a Grand Torchlight Procession ending in a Firework Display; these are some of the activities planned by the Notting Hill Fayre Committee. Last week GROVE visited the "office" in the front room of 34 Tavistock Crescent and asked Committee Secretary Mrs Rhaunie Laslett just why it was all happening. "We felt that although West Indians, Africans, Irish and many ther nationalities all live in a very congested area, there is ry little communication between us. If we can infect them a desire to participate then this can only have good reg Of course, not everyone likes to be in the public eye, e are many ways in which people can participate success. We need carpenters, painters, s be assistants, secretarial help, musi

**Happening:** an event planned to act as a catalyst for further and unexpected creation brought about bu the participation or reactions of whoever was in attendance

> Often we would classify something like the LFS as a failure, however, many things grew out of the process of trying to create the school, more than the school itself actually did as a school.

The LFS was, in a way an 'happening', as it gave birth to a variety of new, unexpected, and in some cases quite successful offspring

