

RED NOSE Picture Special

BUDGET SPECIAL

WESTER HAILES went 'red nose' crazy this month, as up and down the country people went stark stonking bonkers for Comic Relief! Over ten million pounds was raised by the event nationwide - and while Lenny Henry and co dished out the comedy on T.V. these local people raked in the cash. In a number of guises - from Hawaiian Hula Girl to Aunt Sally - they invaded streets, pubs and even buses in Wester Hailes. Red noses were definitely the order of the day as everyone entered into the Comic Relief spirit. And the people of Wester Hailes proved that when it comes to having a laugh - we're hard to beat!



WURZEL Gumidge, Aunt Sally and friends (alias James Leask, Steven Butchart, Marcus Kleen, Paul Mutch and Dawn MacLeod, of Wester Hailes YTS) took to the streets on Comic Relief Day and managed to raise £122.



HAILES Hotel barmaid, Gerry Jolliffe, admits she received a few funny looks when she turned up for work dressed as a Hawaiian Hula Girl - but that didn't deter her from raising £40 for Comic Relief. "I even travelled to work like this," said Gerry, "The neighbours definitely think I've flipped this time!"



HI-JINX Hawaiian style - as the kids at Wester Hailes Child Care Project get into the groove of their Hawaiian beach party - in sunny Hailesland! Even the grown-ups got in on the act, donning red noses and a variety of suitably silly disguises for Comic Relief.

TWENTY pence on a packet of fags, 6 pence on a pint of beer and 55 pence on a bottle of whisky! Yes folks, it's that time of year again. When the man with the wee red brief case decides how much money he can squeeze out of the populace - without losing too many votes.

And this time round, chancellor Norman Lamont has raised a few eyebrows with his first budget.

The generous old fellow has gone and given us all £140 to put towards our poll tax bills - but 'you don't get nothin' for

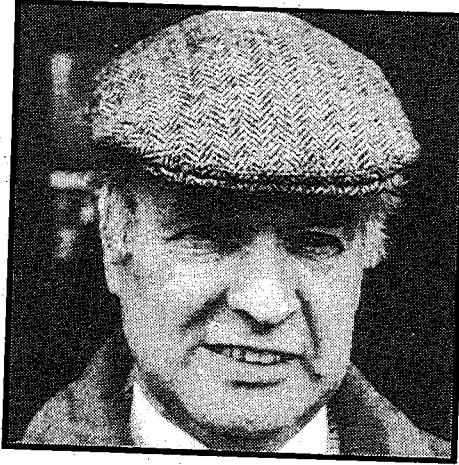
nothin' in this world' as they say, and just to balance things up a bit he's stuck an extra 2 1/2 % on V.A.T!

According to the Tories the budget will be good for business, which means it will be good for the whole country.

But the opposition parties say the attempt to get the economy back on the rails is *too little too late*.

But whatever happens, there will probably be a few more non-smokers around after Stormin' Norman's idea to wallop 20 pence on a packet of fags.

But what do the punters, smokers and non-smokers alike, think of this year's budget - the *Sentinel* hit the streets to find out.....



JOHN ROBERTSON
Baberton Mains Gardens

"Obviously getting £140 off the Poll Tax is welcome, but we'll pay for it in other ways - through V.A.T. and the rest. And I think he's missed an opportunity as far as motoring goes. He should have abolished road tax and stuck it on petrol instead. Petrol mileage would pay more. Surely that's fairer."



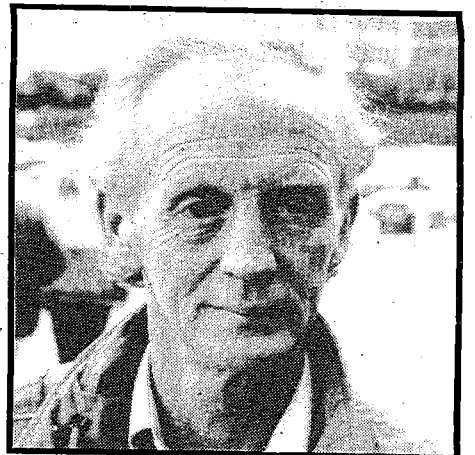
JOHN BANKS
Kingsknowe Place

"Yet again it's the working man that gets clobbered. Instead of hitting the rich with bigger taxes they stick more money on V.A.T. All that means is that if someone wants to buy a washing machine they have to pay more. But I suppose they're just looking after their own, and the working class can go to hell as usual!"



JANET SWEENEY
Dumbryden Gardens

"I'm a smoker, but I don't really object to the extra money on cigarettes. After all it is a luxury, and I choose to smoke. But it's the extra we'll have to pay on things like clothes through the V.A.T. that's wrong. The people who can least afford it will have to pay more."



IAN SCOTT
Wester Hailes Park

"It's a mediocre budget. They don't want to annoy anyone before an election so they haven't done anything that needed to be done. They've not been strong enough, they've not got a brass neck. Abolishing the Poll Tax is good, but who knows what they'll replace it with."

Pics by KEVIN WALSH Words by MARK SMITH



LYNNE AND JOHN FRASER
Redhall Drive

"I reckon it's a fairly good budget, because it won't make any real difference to my finances. It could have been a lot better though, because these high interest rates are bad news for everyone. I think they're just trying to keep everyone sweet for the election."

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