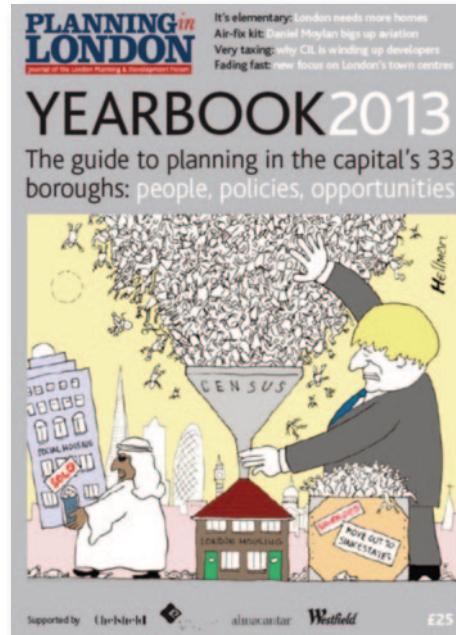
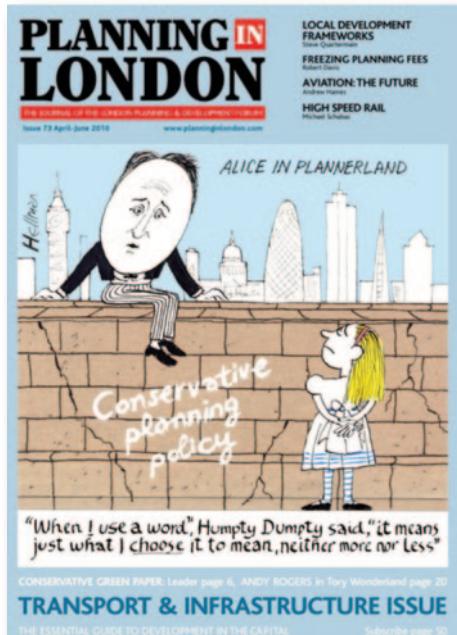


King of cartoonists to retire

Louis Hellman, *Planning in London*'s resident cartoonist is retiring. We pay tribute to the power of Louis' pen – and the endless opportunity for satire that planning affords



LONDON'S HOUSING CRISIS Leader, page 6 and Feature from page 31: the Mayor's new housing zones, Outer boroughs fall behind, Build-to-rent on the up, Homes for older Londoners, Megan McFarlane and Jen Pearce of BSHF on new settlements, Ian Trehearne on London's rising population, Tom Pawpworth on the need for radical reform and 'an exceptional year for capital values' says H-S-C research.

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CHARACTER AND CONTEXT – the new Mayoral SPG
 "Planning for neighbourhoods in a city as dynamic and diverse as London is a tricky business", says Mayor Johnson; page 22; THE HOUSING CRISIS: Claim and counter claim: Peter Eversden p37; CPRE's views, Rosalie Calway p40; NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING takes root in London: Oliver Jefferson p48; 2014 WOLFSON ECONOMICS PRIZE – Where's 'Next' for London: James Gross and Jenni Montgomery p50

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Louis Hellman

The world according to a Hellman is usually a dystopia of venal developers, cynical architects, defeated planners, hopeless politicians, and a long-suffering public, victims of all of the above. Yet within the dystopia there is a Utopian trying to get out.

The cartoonist invites us to ask not only 'Why are things like this?' but also 'Do they have to be like this?' What could things be like? The function of the cartoonist is not merely to amuse, but to provoke, to embarrass and occasionally to infuriate. This is a surreal world but closer to the real thing than we might like to imagine.

When he received his MBE from the late Queen, Hellman was wrongly announced to her as receiving his award for services to agriculture. He said 'Actually it is for architecture'. The Queen responded: 'And what do you do?' Hellman: 'I satirise it'.

A noble calling, exercised since the 1960s, not least in respect of *Planning in London* covers. This issue sees the last of them as Louis has more than earned the right to retire ... with the thanks of all the *Planning in London* editors.

This dystopia shows no sign of vanishing!

—PF

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The towers of London, aesthetically considered

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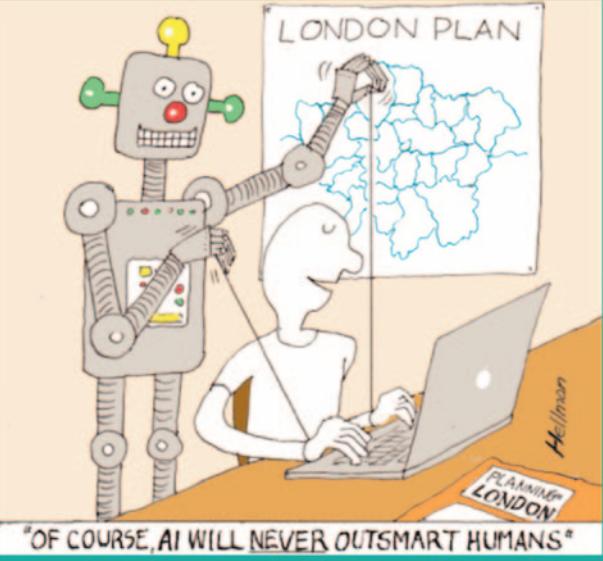
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"OF COURSE, AI WILL NEVER OUTSMART HUMANS"

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