

# Regency Square Area Society

**NEWSLETTER 99**  
June 1994

## Silent Jumping

There was bungee jumping all day on Saturday the 8th of May. And with it there was continuous amplified music.

The music itself was not particularly raucous, but being electronic it had very insistent bass notes. They could be heard all around Regency Square and in Sussex Heights. They bounced off buildings and so could be quite loud in places where you would have expect to be shielded from them.

The Council's Environmental Services Department received a number of complaints, including one from the Society.

The Environmental Health Officer, Mr Wilmott has spoken to the organisers of the bungee jumping who hope to return to the West Pier in the future, but have no date fixed.

Mr Wilmott has asked to be notified in advance when they do plan to return so that "adequate control measures can be employed prior to the event taking place."

Let's hope that this particular piece of officialese translates into something quiet.

## The Trust Takes Soundings

The bungee jumping is run by a private contractor but it takes place on land owned by the West Pier Trust which gets some income from it.

The Trust is therefore keen to see it continue. Following the complaints someone from the Trust has been phoning people in Sussex Heights to find out if they were disturbed.

Perhaps the Trust is hoping to build a case to prove that the music is not causing a nuisance.

The problem with noise of this kind is that some people are disturbed by it and others are not. It just depends where you are, what you are doing and how you react to the particular noise.

Our view is that music of this kind should not be played all day at a volume that makes it audible in a large numbers of private homes. So long as some people are disturbed then the Council should use its powers to stop it.

**KEEP ON PHONING**

Don't forget to phone the Council if you find rubbish dumped in the street. The free number to call is **0800 525573**.

## Pocket Bus Times

The Society has been sent copies of the new summer timetable for Brighton and Hove Buses and the Brighton Blue Buses.

We also have some leaflets about the County Council's County Rider Services which provide door to door transport for people who find it hard to get on buses.

If you would like copies of either leaflet call Roger Hinton (tel 321794).

## A Point about the Compass

More noise problems; this time for residents of Clarence Gardens.

The recently re-named Compass pub in Clarence Square has installed a powerful sound system which is shaking their walls and stretching their nerves.

The Environmental Health Officer has been asked to take action.

## Keep Those Subs Coming !

Without members there is no Society. If you haven't renewed yet please do it today !

To Brian Smith, 45 Regency Square, Brighton.

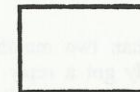
I would like to renew my membership of the Regency Square Area Society for the year 1994/95 in the category ticked below:

	£
Ordinary member	3.00
Family	3.50
Senior Citizen	2.50
Junior	1.00
Associate (non-resident)	2.50
Business (non-resident)	5.50

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Cheques payable to the Regency Square Area Society please.



A cross in the box means your subscription is due !

## Bins vs. Bags

Question: would you rather have bags of rubbish on the pavement or large wheelie bins ?

Answer: neither !

At least that is the view taken by this Society.

The question arises because the Council has located a large trade refuse bin outside number 28 Russell Square. The reason they have done this is because bags of rubbish were always being left outside the building.

The Society was concerned that this bin had been installed without any consultation and might be the first of many. So we wrote to the Council with some questions.

## The Questions

- 1 Is official permission needed to put a bin of this kind on the public highway?
- 2 If so, what procedures are involved and when was permission for this bin granted?
- 3 When planning permission was given to convert 28/29 Russell Square to flats, did the plans show any refuse storage area and where any planning conditions imposed about refuse storage ?
- 4 Are there any plans to locate other bins in this area ?

## The Answers

After a delay of more than two months and a follow up letter, we finally got a reply from Mr Allan the Building Control Manager. It is worth quoting at length:

Formal permission is normally required to place anything on the public highway. In this case that does not apply because it was the Council which put the bin there and it would be somewhat nonsensical for us to give ourselves permission.

I am afraid we do not have any record of whether any planning conditions regarding refuse storage was imposed.

At this time, we have no plans to site any further containers in the Square. This one was sited to solve a particular problem which, as far as we know, does not apply to any other property.

## The Reaction

The Society's reaction was, to put it mildly, amazement.

Does the Council not have to consult anyone before it puts things on the pavement ?

In a democracy people should have a chance to have their say about something which affects them directly. The people living near 28 Russell Square seem to have been denied this right.

Does the Council not keep records of its planning decisions ? If not, what is the point of making them ?

Does the Council not have a policy that all new conversions should include rubbish storage areas?

Has Mr Allan ever walked round this area ? Clearly not if he thinks that 28 Russell Square is the only property with a rubbish problem.

## The Solution

The solution to our rubbish problem is not unsightly trade refuse bins outside private houses.

## What we need is

a fixed collection day instead of the "skip a day" system, so that people know when to put rubbish out;

more frequent collections;

a "flying squad" to deal with reports of rubbish dumped on non collection days;

legal action against persistent dumpers.

We have been saying this for years. When will the Council listen ?

## What Is Being Done ?

Needless to say we have responded to Mr Allan's letter making all the above points.

We sent copies to our local councillors. Councillor Ping, who lives in Regency Square has already taken up the matter and will be having a meeting with the Director of Environmental Services.

## So Finally . . .

An apology for filling the newsletter yet again with columns of rubbish about rubbish. Will it ever end?

## SOCIETY CONTACTS

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