



Regency Square Area Society

**NEWSLETTER 111
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Over £2,300 Raised by Draw

Many thanks to everyone involved in the Society's draw. Especially to those who contributed the prizes.

The draw took place at the Beach Hotel on 19 October. We had hoped to have former East Enders star, Anna Wing to draw the winning ticket but she was taken ill and was not able to come.

Councillor Martin Boggon kindly stepped into the breach and drew the ticket for the first prize of two air tickets to Paris, which went to Society member Mrs J Appleton.

Then, to everyone's surprise she also won the second prize. She has passed one of the prizes on to Traude Tappin: a well deserved thank you for all the work she did in organising the whole thing.

(The Society secretary has a full list of prize winners, which can be inspected on request.)

A last minute prize from the Metropole Hotel (dinner and overnight stay for two) was auctioned after the main draw. Bidding was fast and furious and final price achieved was just over £100.

The total amount raised is £2,318 which has been put into a special account, to be used exclusively for improvements to Regency Square. The Society committee will soon have to start the pleasant job of deciding what to do with the money. If you have any suggestions please pass them on to one of the committee members.

The Future of Churchill Square

A Society meeting with special guest
Mike Hannigan of Standard Life

7:30 pm Thursday 12 December
York Room, Hotel Metropole

A Little Less Awful

The re-development of Churchill Square will cause noise, dust and congestion. We reported in the last issue that the Council had granted the developers permission to work from 8 am to 10 pm seven days a week.

Thanks to the efforts of Society chairman, Harold Lawson, this has now been changed.

Work will be allowed between 7 am and 7 pm on weekdays, and between 7 am and 1 pm on Saturdays. No work will be allowed on Saturday afternoons, Sundays or bank holidays.

SOCIETY CONTACTS

CHAIRMAN Harold Lawson tel 328203
SECRETARY Pat McCulloch tel 773275
TREASURER Brian Smith tel 325175
NEWSLETTER Roger Hinton tel 321794

Hot Rod

A beach buggy type vehicle belonging to a resident of Regency Square was set alight by vandals in the early hours recently while parked in the corner of the Square outside the Regency Tavern.

Fortunately the petrol tank did not catch light. If it had, damage to neighbouring properties and other vehicles could have been very serious.

The incident does highlight the problem caused by parking in the cul de sac leading up to the pub. Vehicles are often parked two or three deep in the middle of the road. A fire engine needing to get to the end of the street could be seriously delayed.

We are therefore proposing to the Council that the single yellow line at the end of the street be made a double yellow, thus making double parking illegal at any time.

Another 12 Months

The Planning Committee has approved the continuation of late night opening for the Castle Snooker Club for another 12 month trial.

Local residents had complained of being disturbed by people leaving the club in the early hours. Planning officials recommended that the late night opening be dis-continued, but the councillors on the committee decided to grant another 12 month trial period.

Meanwhile, we have now had a response from the Local Government Ombudsman about our complaint about the way the previous application was handled. We had complained that we were discouraged from attending the site visit and as a result could not draw the attention of councillors to the proximity of residential property. Our complaint was not upheld.

Pavements - what are they for?

The answer is obvious - parking and rubbish storage.

Just take a look at the pavement at the top of Cannon Place near the back entrance to the Halifax Building Society. Someone has knocked down a wall so that they can park their car in the back area of Olympus Sports.

Unfortunately the car doesn't quite fit, so it sticks out across the pavement. And the rubbish skip that used to be parked in the area was in the way so it is now regularly left on the pavement.

What about the rubble and bricks from the demolished wall? They were put in the skip of course, making it so heavy that its wheels have dug large dents in the pavement tarmac.

The skip that blocks the pavement has the name of Brighton Council on the side. So we asked the Council if it could be moved. Their reply was that obstruction is a matter of the police.

Good Riddance to Regency Rd?

Society policy, as reported in our previous newsletter, is to oppose the closure of Regency Road because it provides an important link for pedestrians and motorists between this area and the Old Town.

But not everyone agrees. Society member Ken Kennar, who lives in Russell Square has written to express the opposite view:

"I do use Regency Road, but would be glad to walk an extra 50 yards in order to be rid of it. This road provides a route for drunks and vandals who plague this square in the early hours, smashing doors and tearing down railing etc.

"It would also make the square a more secluded place if this road were to be closed. I would certainly not want to see the development of Churchill Square hindered on its account."

What do you think? Should the Society oppose the road closure?

Churchill Square - the facts

Mike Hannigan of Standard Life (the company which owns the Square) is the man who knows exactly what is planned for Churchill Square. He has accepted our invitation to come and talk to the Society.

The meeting will be at 7:30 pm on Thursday 12 December 1995 in the York Room at the Metropole Hotel. Refreshments will be served.

Christmas is Coming ...

...and the Council have offered to give us a tree to put in Regency Square.

No ! (well Yes actually)

For months, if not years, the Council has been promising to repaint the railings in Russell and Clarence Square, and to replace some missing kerbstones. But they never actually do it.

Recently we asked them if they could replace the bollards outside the Mama Mia restaurant in Preston Street with something more attractive. The answer was No - not enough money.

Pity - we thought - but you can't have everything. Of course, we should have guessed. What they really meant was Yes. There are now some very substantial looking black metal bollards in place of the ugly old white painted pipes.

100 Members !

We have reached 100 hundred members so far this year. And there are still plenty of people who haven't joined!

So if you know anyone who might be interested, why not make them an offer they can't refuse:

The Offer

New members joining now will not have to pay again until February 1997.



To Brian Smith, 45 Regency Square, Brighton.

Please enrol me as a member of the Regency Square Area Society for the year commencing March 1996. 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.