



## NEWSLETTER 115 March 1996

### Annual General Meeting

The Society's 17th Annual General Meeting will be held at 7:30 pm on Thursday 28 March 1996 in the York Room at the Hotel Metropole.

#### Agenda

- 1 Minutes of the Previous Meeting
- 2 Chairman's Report for the Year
- 3 Treasurer's Report & Annual Accounts
- 4 Subscription Rates for 1997/8
- 5 Election of Officers and Committee

After the formal agenda there will be an opportunity for members to discuss any issues which they wish the Society to consider.

Refreshments will be served and the evening will end with an illustrated talk by Jackie Frisby of Brighton Museum.

#### SOCIETY CONTACTS

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

## The Society's Year

### Churchill Square

The plans for Churchill Square were probably the biggest issue facing the Society over the past year.

As a result of Society comments, the developers changed their plans to include some improvements to the Cannon place facade of the site.

The Committee also informed the Council of the concern of local people about the potential impact of increased traffic. We were pleased to be reassured that the scheme would not result in the loss of any residents' spaces.

Many members were unhappy about the closure of Regency Road. The Committee considered making a formal objection to the road closure, thus forcing a public enquiry. At a Society meeting members had a chance to meet a representative of the developers and to hear the views of our three local councillors. As a result it was decided that the loss of Regency Road was a price worth paying to see the re-development go ahead.

### Other Planning Issues

The committee has reviewed local planning applications and the Chairman has continued to represent the area at the Council's Conservation Areas Advisory Group (CAAG).

A complaint was made by the Society to the Local Government Ombudsman about the Council's handling of an application by the Castle Snooker club for extended opening hours. The Ombudsman investigated what had happened but came to the conclusion that the Council was not guilty of mal-administration.

The Society has continued to monitor the development of flats at 40-41 Castle Street. In spite of a requirement for rubbish storage at the back, it seems now that large amounts of rubbish are being stored in the street.

## Rubbish

This has been the first year for quite some time that the committee's work has not been dominated by the issue of rubbish. The situation is still far from perfect but the Council's decision to abandon the system of changing collection days after each bank holiday has done much to reduce the amount of rubbish lying in the street. Extra collections at weekends also seem to be taking place.

## Parking

The Committee has complained to the police about the lack of enforcement of parking restrictions.

We also commented on a proposal for an ambulance bay for the Regency Division of St John Ambulance. We supported the need for a bay but suggested that it should be located in Queensbury Mews rather than in front of houses in Regency Square. The Council eventually rejected both ideas and the ambulance still has no local parking place.

Businesses in Western Rd have started parking cars and putting rubbish on the pavement at the top of Cannon Place. This is unsightly and causes an obstruction for disabled people getting from the new disabled parking to the shops. We have raised the problem with the businesses concerned.

## No Fireworks

The Society's first firework party was in 1979 and there has been one each year since until 1995 when we decided not to continue. We want to thank the members who have anonymously donated the fireworks for so many years.

## Noise

The Compass pub in Clarence Square has been the cause of much disturbance to its neighbours in recent months because of loud music and rowdy customers. The Society has supported local residents in trying to get Council action. We had little success but are pleased to report that a change of licensee seems to have solved the problem.

### Fund Raising

The Society has set up a Regency Square Improvement Fund. The fund, which is held in a separate, interest earning account, currently stands at £2,325 and the new committee will need to start the job of deciding how it is to be used.

The Society also joined with other local groups in supporting the Council's successful bid for an Urban Regeneration Grant. A sum of about £7 million was awarded to the town and about £2 million will be spent in and around Regency Square. The Society will play a role in the consultation process that will lead to decisions on how it is to be used.

### Social Activities

It has been a busy social year. The AGM was well attended and was followed by interesting talk by John Roles on the old theatres and cinemas of Brighton.

A prize draw at the Beach hotel raised over £2,000 for the Improvement Fund. A silent Auction at the Regency Hotel added £237.

With help from Brighton Council we were again able to put a Christmas tree Regency Square. Committee members met for a Christmas drink in the Regency Tavern and were pleased to be joined by other members of the Society.

### The Committee

Harold Lawson has now decided to stand down as chairman. However, we are glad to report that he is standing for election as a committee member and has offered to continue to represent the Society at the Conservation Areas Advisory Group.

Society treasurer, Brian Smith has been nominated as chairman. At the time of going to press confirmation is still awaited of who is to be nominated as the new treasurer. Pat McCulloch is standing for re-election as Secretary

Kate Page has moved out of the area and has resigned as a committee member. She joined the

committee in March 1994 and her fellow members want to record their thanks for her support during the past two years.

Committee members standing for re-election are:

Clive Buxton	Regency Square
Diana Dunn	Clarence Gardens
Roger Hinton	Regency Square
Gail Simons	Regency Square (co-opted)
Traude Tappin	Sussex Heights

### Thanks

Finally, a big thankyou to everyone who has helped the Society during the year.

#### Annual Accounts 1995/6 Income and Expenditure Summary

Income	£	Expenditure	£
Donations	112	Functions	84
Functions	25	AGM	68
Subscriptions	421	Printing etc	257
Net Interest	18	Christmas Tree	125
		-----	534
		Surplus for year	42
	576	-----	576
	-----		-----

#### Balance Sheet

Surplus for year	42	Cash on Deposit	858
Surplus Bt fwd	727	Cash in hand	14
	-----		-----
	769		
Advance subs	103		
	-----		-----
	872		872
	-----		-----

#### Regency Square Improvement Fund

Balance as at 29 February 1996 £ 2,325

Brian Smith, Treasurer

### Subscription Rates

The current subscription rates were set in 1988. There will be no change for the coming year but the Committee would like to add £1 to all rates from March 1997.

### Nominations Invited

The Society needs an active committee and new members will be most welcome. Any member of the Society can be nominated as an officer or a committee member. If you would like to nominate someone please contact the secretary.

### Please Renew your Membership

To Brian Smith, 45 Regency Square, Brighton.

I would like to renew my membership of the Regency Square Area Society for the year 1996/7 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.

### "The First in Europe" George IV's Private Band

An Illustrated Talk by Jackie Frisby

After the Society's AGM  
7:30 pm Thursday 28 March

York Room  
Hotel Metropole