

## NEWSLETTER 327 February 2019

### A New Year... A New Bench

As soon as the weather gets a bit warmer, you will be able to enjoy sitting on the restored bench in the middle garden of Regency Square. Eventually the bench will carry a plaque with the following text:

The renovation of this bench was funded by the  
Regency Square Area Society

The cost of restoring the bench and purchasing the plaque was £718. The work was undertaken by the City Council.



### Did Zoe say yes?

A wonderful first for Regency Square – a marriage proposal in letters three feet high?



On Friday 25 January Arran proposed to Zoe in the i360 – and had she been looking out on the way up, she might have had a tiny inkling of what was about to happen.

All best wishes to Arran and Zoe.



### Treasure Trove

A recent trawl through the Secretary's old slides has revealed photos dating back to the 1990s and earlier of Society members and the area as it was 'in those days'. These photos have been digitised and will gradually be put onto the Society website: [www.regencybrighoton.com](http://www.regencybrighoton.com)

Here is one to whet your appetite.



The Newburg Rooms in St Margarets Place looking very spruce in the 1980s. The windows are clean and adorned with white net curtains. The façade is tastefully painted and two pretty lamps adorn the main entrance.

Go and look for yourself at the building today. The building is still, as it was 30 years ago, part of the Metropole Exhibition Halls. Today, it languishes in a filthy state. The buddleia seems to be winning the battle in the basement and on the pediment over the columns.

One Society member living in Sussex Heights actively corresponds with the Metropole Hotel to encourage it to care for this building ... to little or no avail.



## RSAS now tweets



The Society's Twitter handle is @RegencySocietyAS. Follow us! Let us know if you find it useful to contact the Society.

### Society Contacts

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## Welcome to Annabelle

Annabelle Watson of Clarence Square has been co-opted to the committee and will be standing for election at the AGM on 25<sup>th</sup> March.

If you too would like to come along to a committee meeting with a view to joining the committee, you would be very welcome, just contact any of the officers listed above.

Committee meetings are held just once a month and the next one will take place on February 18<sup>th</sup> at 3.00pm. It might persuade you to stand for election to the committee at the next AGM.

## Dates for your diary

### 25 March 2019

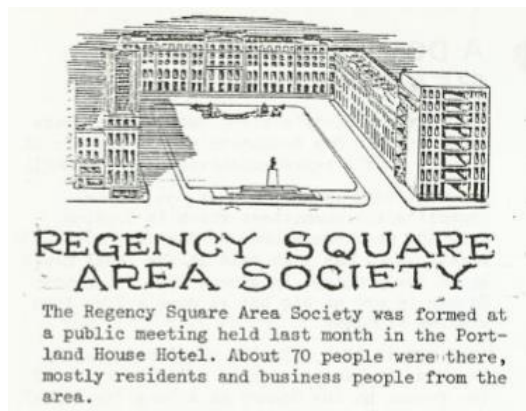
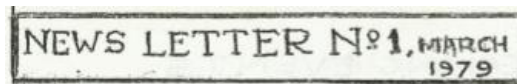
AGM: The Annual General Meeting of the Society, to which both members and non-members are invited, will take place on Monday 25 March at 7.00pm in the Osbourne Room of the Metrople Hotel.

The evening will start with an illustrated talk by Gill Wales about the Society's book "Regency Square, its history and its stories".

This will be followed by refreshments, a raffle with superb prizes donated by local businesses, and finally, the business meeting.

All welcome.

## Yes, it's the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Society



## Should they stay or should they go?

These notices now adorn many of the low walls across Regency Square. They are believed to be a sign that the square is a good place to perform running and jumping tricks.



The lads who do 'parkour' are extremely agile and clever. They are also entertaining to watch. But they often put themselves in extreme danger with some of the daring exploits and they are damaging the steps and wall in the square.

Should the Society be encouraging them – or not? Contact us and let us know.

## Planning

**28 Clarence Square:** Thanks to the persistence of a resident in Clarence Square and several e-mails to the Planning Department, the unsightly and unapproved bin store has been reduced in size.

Is this acceptable if the railings are replaced and the property is well decorated and maintained? Or should the Society press for complete demolition of the bin store which has no planning permission?

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