



## MONDAY THE 5<sup>TH</sup> FIREWORK NIGHT.

Don't forget the fifth of November! The Society is organising a firework display on Regency Square. It will begin at 6.30 pm and everyone is welcome. Refreshments will be provided.

All fireworks will be under the control of adults. If you have any fireworks you would like to contribute to the display please contact the Society Chairman, Eddie Edwards at 38 Regency Square (Tel 27935).

If the weather is too bad to hold the display it will be postponed until the first fine evening after the fifth.

## SOCIAL EVENINGS

The Committee recently decided to try and set up a regular meeting place and a regular meeting time for the Society. The idea was to provide an opportunity for members to get to know one another.

The first two meetings were held on Wednesday evenings in the Portland House Hotel. Their success was due to the performances by the Lollipopps. No further evenings have been planned at the moment because we have not had much indication of support from members and we have run out of ideas.

Would you like to see regular evenings of this sort? Do you have any ideas how they should be organised - talks, whist drives etc. Would you be willing to help organise them?

## FAMILY EVENINGS WITH THE "LOLLIPOPS"

Society members and their guests have been entertained at two recent social evenings by the Lollipopps.

The Lollipopps is a group of young dancers - seven girls and one boy aged between 5 and 11. They met up at dancing school and as well as their local shows for the Society they are performing in a number of Old Fols' Homes.

Their two performances at the Portland House Hotel were very well received. On Wednesday evening the 7th of November they will be rehearsing a new routine in the Portland House Ballroom and anyone who would like to come along to watch would be welcome.

## ANY IDEAS ?

If you have any ideas please let the Secretary know before the next committee meeting which will be on November 6th - contact Carol Clipsham Adelaide Hotel 51 Regency Square (Tel 24987).

## XMAS PARTY & DANCE

Plans are in hand for a Children's Christmas party and a Christmas dance. They will be held on either the 19th or 22nd December.

Look out for details in the next Newsletter

## REGENCY MEWS

Preliminary investigations at the Planning Offices reveal that the Borough Council don't know much more about the Regency Mews than we do.

In the last issue we raised the question of whether there was a right of way along it and who actually owned it. The Council have adopted the entrance to the mews; that is the narrow part alongside the Royal Sovereign Pub.

Apart from that it is unadopted which means the Council take no responsibility for it. Their plans give no indication of whether it is a right of way or who owns it.

They suggest that anyone who owns a house at the top of Regency Square should look at his deeds to see if there is any reference to the Mews.

If you can consult any relevant deeds and could pass on any information to the Committee it would be very welcome. Contact Eddie Edwards 38 Regency Sq (Tel 27935) or Daniel Spear Hotel George IV (tel 28819)

## UNDERGROUND BREAD OVEN

The Society's newest members are Geoff and Di Howitt who are moving into number 50 Regency Square. At present they are doing a lot of work inside the house which is on the top corner of Queensbury Mews.

In the process of re-decorating the basement they have discovered a false wall in the front room. When they removed it they found a large baker's oven which extends right under the road. It seems likely that it has been there since the house was built in the 1830s and it explains why, unlike the neighbouring houses, it has no front basement area.

Unfortunately the oven does not seem to have a flue now so it cannot be put back into use. Geoff and Di haven't quite decided what to do with it yet.

They are also puzzling over another discovery. Behind the side wall of the house they have found a huge coal hole. It must be about 8 feet by 10 feet and it extends under the mews. What makes it even more strange is that the floor of the coal hole is 3 or 4 foot below the level of the rest of the basement.

It seems to have been bricked up for many years and when it was opened there was a pile of wooden furniture inside. Presumably the extra large coal hole was needed to store fuel for the oven. The hole from the street has long since been tarmacked over so, like the oven, it can no longer be used for its original purpose.

Number 50 Regency Square used to be a Guest House. The sign on the side wall was uncovered a couple of years ago and it carried the name "St Margaret's Guest House."

Does anyone remember it having been a baker's - or anything else that would require such a large underground oven?

The Society has received a donation from Marks & Spencer in Western Road. The Manager said he was very pleased to hear of the Society's formation and he sent £10 towards the cost of setting it up.

The other side is still blank. Please help to fill it. Any news, views, cartoons will be welcome. Contact Roger Hinton 38 Regency Square (Tel 21794)