



REGENCY SQUARE AREA SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER Number 39
AUGUST 1985

NEW COUNCILLOR JOINS SOCIETY

Mrs Poppy Nettlefold resigned recently as one of the three councillors representing the Regency Ward.

She was always an active member of the Council and keen to listen to problems and do what she could to help.

She was also a strong supporter of our Society. She joined when it first started.

We now have a new councillor, Andy Winter. He is the first Labour councillor in this ward for many years.

We are pleased to welcome him as a member. The Society is strictly non-party political. We have established a good working relationship with Christopher Giles, one of our Tory councillors, and we look forward to doing the same with Andy Winter.

It is particularly useful to know that he has been elected to the Planning Committee.

SUN, HISTORY AND CREAM TEA

The weather was kind and the sun shone when about 20 society members joined Robert Gregory for a guided walk around the area to look at some of the buildings of historical interest.

Many thanks to Mr Gregory for an interesting walk. Also to Society Committee member, Audrey Simpson for organising the teas afterwards.

PARKING:

DO YELLOW LINES MEAN ANYTHING?

It is hard to remember sometimes, but a double yellow line means no parking at any time.

You would not think so if you walked around Regency Square on a summer Sunday afternoon. There are cars parked on double yellow lines all over the place.

There are no wardens to be seen on Sundays and the police appear to show little interest.

This naturally causes resentment amongst local residents, for example the Society member who recently got a ticket for parking on a single yellow line one weekday. A law which is unfairly administered ceases to be respected.

More important still, the double yellow lines are put where they are for safety reasons.

Consider the junction of Regency Square and Preston Street for example. Sometimes drivers park right up to the corner, leaving only a one vehicle wide passage through what is a busy and dangerous junction.

The Society is in contact with the Police to draw their attention to the problems of illegal parking at weekends.

BOURNEMOUTH

A DAY OUT IN

There will be a coach trip to Bournemouth on Sunday 1 September.

We will leave Regency Square at 9-30 am and return by 7-30 pm. We will stop on the way for coffee and expect to be in Bournemouth in time for lunch.

Tickets will be £4.50 for adults and £2.50 for children and senior citizens. Please book early using the form below.

To Harold Lawson, Treasurer, Regency Square Area Society, 7 Chartwell Court, Russell Sq.

Please send ___ adult tickets at £4.50

Please send ___ child tickets at £2.50

I enclose £___ in payment.

Name _____

Address _____

Cash, or cheques payable to the Regency Square Area Society please.

DON'T DELAY BOOK TODAY!

PORTLAND HOUSE HOTEL

The Portland House Hotel has a special place in the history of our Society. The first meeting of the Society was held there, as were many subsequent AGMs, socials and fetes.

It is now empty and decaying. No one, it seems, wants to buy it as it stands.

So a proposal has been put to the Planning Committee to convert two of the houses, numbers 53 and 54, into flats; three town houses with garages will also be built in Queensbury Mews.

The Society welcomes this plan. It is far better that these large houses should be used to provide places for people to live than that they should sit empty and be allowed to fall apart.

The Council has a policy of trying to prevent hotels being converted to residential use. They are still prevaricating over a similar application for the George IV Hotel.

Their motives are good. They want to encourage conference trade, which helps the town's economy. Without plenty of hotel bedrooms, big conferences cannot come.

But George IV and the Portland House do not seem to be able to attract the money needed to re-open them as hotels. Perhaps they are too big to be run by a family and too small to interest the big hotel chains.

Whatever the reason, the Council must face reality and allow the buildings to be used for something that people are prepared to invest in, namely flats.

DOGS

Rumour has it that a local resident was fined recently for allowing a dog into the gardens in Russell Square.

Meanwhile the Council is hoping to introduce a bye-law which will make it illegal to take a dog onto the beach.

At present they are waiting for Home Office approval.

According to the Borough secretary the new law "will empower any constable or duly authorised Council officer to remove any dog from a designated beach. The Council will also have power to prosecute the person responsible for that dog."

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR SUBSCRIPTION ?

Most members have now renewed their subscription but a few are still outstanding. If there is a red cross in the box below then we have not yet had yours.

Please send your subscription to the Treasurer, Harold Lawson, at 7 Chartwell Court, Russell Square.

The rates are

Full Member	2.50
Family	3.00
Senior Citizen	2.00
Junior	0.50
Associate	2.00
Business (non resident)	5.00

A RED CROSS HERE MEANS YOU HAVEN'T RENEWED



REGENCY MEWS:

SOCIETY SURVEY CONFIRMED

If you saw a large crane at work recently in Regency Mews you may have thought that work was being started on the new office building.

In fact the crane was being used to test out the Society's claim that the building would be visible from the seafront above the houses in Regency Square.

We understand that the crane was raised to the height of the proposed building and was in fact visible. As a result the developer is unlikely now to submit his present plans for planning permission.

The Planning Department are expecting revised plans to be submitted showing the office building at least 1.5 metres lower.

SQUATTERS

Meanwhile members in Russell Square report that squatters have moved into the old Dutton Foreshaw Offices. We have asked the Environmental Health Officer to investigate and to ensure that if people are living there, they have proper sanitary arrangements.

DON'T FORGET TO BOOK YOUR TICKET FOR BOURNEMOUTH